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#1338

July 9, 1999

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Plan your future to create memories

Mark Evanier discusses cool technology in his column this week. It's a topic many in this field of fantasy have been considering for some time. Where's it going? How will it change what we do? How will what we do in the next decade change the memories we'll have in 2009?

And, while we all work our way to 2009, Mark's column raises another aspect of past, present, and future — especially appropriate in an issue in which we look forward to this year's Comic-Con International: San Diego.

At last year's show on Saturday night, the American Association of Comicbook Collectors had its sixth annual national dinner meeting, and fans got to hobnob with many pioneers who made our entertainment world what it is. This year's special guest of honor will be Jerry Robinson — but, believe me, there will be a plethora of industry celebrities.

I couldn't even fit all the giants of the field in one camera shot last year. In this one shot, for example, I caught for the record: (back, left to right) Bob Haney, Ramona Fradon, John Broome, Paul S. Newman, John Severin, and



Editorial
by
**Maggie
Thompson**

Roy Thomas and (front, left to right) Nick Cardy, Dick Sprang, Jim Mooney, and Julius Schwartz — and they were only about half of the celebrities who lined up for photos that night.

The kicker, though, is that several of last year's attendees have commented glumly on the losses in the comic-book family since that event. Of the people in the captured moment shown here, Broome and Newman have died.

To conclude his column this issue, Mark tells of a moment of magic — and says with regret that he wishes he'd told Mel Tormé, "I just wanted to tell you how much I've enjoyed all your records." But readers of the rest of the column will quickly discover that he *did* communicate. And he not only communicated for himself, he spread his affection to a number of other people. And you know conserved well that it was not only he who left that restaurant with a memory that will stay with him all his life.

Comic-Con International is a world in which hosts of admirers can tell creators how much those creators have meant in the lives of hosts of us. And it's a world in which the future touches

the past.

My son and I talked last night about ways in which the world will be changed by computers in the next decade. We'll still need shoestores — because, for all that you can measure your foot, you're probably still going to want to feel the shoe on your foot before you buy that shoe. But will clothing styles evolve to styles that don't have to fit perfectly to be practical and attractive? That's a possibility.

More and more comics marketing is going on via the Internet. But at present, the Internet doesn't give us everything we want — even if we have the latest equipment. If you buy a comic book by the single issue, for example, it will cost as much to ship that copy as it will to buy it in a store — and you still risk postal crunching. But we're hearing about services that will print a book while you wait. Could that work someday with comics? Hmm.

But the Internet won't give you a magic moment with Jerry Robinson, who named Robin, the Boy Wonder, and dreamed up The Joker and eventually created his own international cartoonists' syndicate. And he's not the only guy who'll be at San Diego to give you the memory of a lifetime.

And who knows? Maybe you can give your favorite creators some happy memories at the same time. Let them know how much they've meant to you. It goes something like this: "I just wanted to tell you how much I've enjoyed all your work."

Or let another fan know why these giants are giants. It's up to you.

This week in

COMICS
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GUIDE

On the cover



Fans of *Star Wars* and *Star Trek* have been able to follow the further adventures of their favorite characters for years in an assortment of comics series produced by Marvel, DC, Dark Horse, and other publishers. Over the past 20 years, fans of *Battlestar Galactica* have had far fewer opportunities to enjoy their characters' further adventures. Now Realm Press is set to satisfy that need with two new series.

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You could win the original art for this week's *CBG* cover. All you have to do is send your name, age, address, and favorite *Battlestar Galactica* character on a postcard to:

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Reversal! Was Alex Ross swipe victim?

Discovery of dates resolves art controversy

By Matt Brady

Following the report in *CBG* #1336 regarding rumors that Alex Ross had swiped designs and even whole works of art from Chinese artist Khoo Fuk Lung, numerous sources went into overdrive to clear up ambiguities regarding exactly when Khoo's work was originally published in Hong Kong and China.

After exhaustive research on *Solarlord*, originally published by Tony Wong's Jade Dynasty Publications Limited in Hong Kong, it has become clear that *Solarlord* began publication in July 1996 originally as a bi-weekly manga which changed to a weekly series in late 1996. With this new information, which made it impossible for Ross to have swiped the covers in question from Khoo, Ross was certainly completely exonerated.

Ross takes a closer look. Ross hadn't waited for such date information, though. After receiving copies of some of the most suspicious images by Khoo, Ross came to the conclusion many are now reaching. "I was feeling pretty much in the clear last week after someone pointed out to me that it actually might be the reverse of what everyone up until that point had been thinking or accusing: that I might've been the one getting ripped off," Ross said. "I took a closer look at Khoo's work and realized that a couple of these pictures were just way too damn close for coincidence. I studied one of the illustrations closely, one of the head shots that people had suggested that I stole, and it was, stroke for stroke, so much the same damn thing that I did, it gave me cause to think that this guy swiped me."

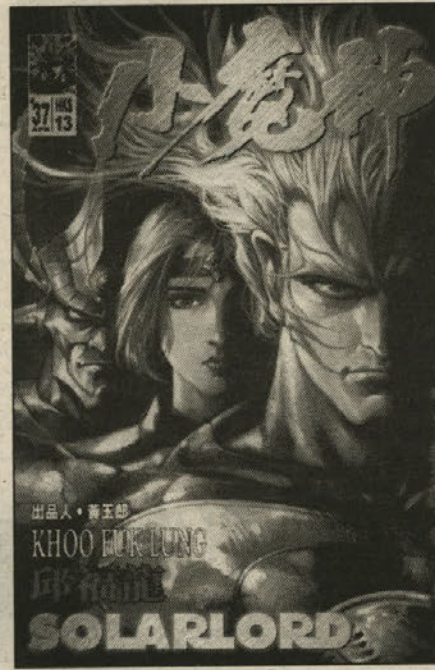
"I know that I never saw this guy's work before, so I gave the guy the benefit of the doubt that just by pure fortune we're hitting the same designs. I looked at it again and came to the conclusion that it wasn't that at all, and I was being swiped. My next conclusion was that someone



Ross' cover for *Wizard* #57 (left) was published in April 1996, many months before Khoo's *Solarlord* #37 (right) was produced.

wasn't being clear on the copyright dates that were being bandied about. I have heard from other artists that this series was making the rounds at cons earlier this year. My question, then, was who was telling everybody that these images were from the late '80s — something I still am trying to find out."

Ross' conclusion is borne out by examining the publication dates. For example, Ross' *Kingdom Come* cover to *Wizard* #57 was published in April 1996, meaning the cover image would have been solicited in *Previews* as early as February 1996, five months before *Solarlord* #1 was published and many months before *Solarlord* #37, which features a very Ross-esque design and layout of the *Solarlord* characters. The same can be said for the other images that Ross had been alleged to have swiped from Khoo.



International relations. The final nail in the coffin for Ross came when he spoke with DC's International Licensing office the week of June 7. "I asked them within the last 10 years (which would cover the time period that we were talking about, if Khoo did this work in the late '80s), how good our trade system was with China and Hong Kong and how often these things were getting over here," Ross said. "In the case of China, it was nearly nothing. If you try to find that stuff, finding imports from Japan is one thing and finding comics imports from Hong Kong you can sometimes do, but finding imports from China is impossible. I wouldn't have been able to get the guy's work from the '80s to steal it, if I had wanted to."

Ross' suspicions about the dates of *Solarlord*'s publication were confirmed on

June 14, when he received a call from DC. "I was made aware of a memo that was in the DC offices that pointed out the dates of Khoo's work being several years later than people had originally suggested," Ross said. "It makes sense that *Solarlord* started in 1996 and has run for the last three or so years, because the copyright dates on *Solarlord* as published by Image are all from the last three years. Two of the illustrations I had done years ago, so there's no way that I could've swiped this guy, if he only started doing his series in '96. The *Supreme* cover swipe [*Solarlord* #39] had to be one that Khoo did in the last year and has to have a copyright 1998 or 1999. That illustration only appeared in print exactly a year ago."

"Also, with one of the paintings that looks like the *Kingdom Come* hardcover regular edition cover [*Solarlord* #19], I had done that illustration design before that cover and still had the photo reference on it, and there was no way that I could've had this guy's art back in 1990 or whenever I did my original piece."

Waid corroborates. The resolution of the issue was aided on June 16, when Ross' *Kingdom Come* collaborator Mark Waid issued an unsolicited statement to *CBG*:

"There's been some controversy lately as to whether or not Alex Ross has been caught 'swiping' from the work of a painter named Khoo Fuk Lung. As the owner of a book of Lung's work, let me be the first to publicly refute this accusation with actual evidence to the contrary."

"The confusion arose when a gallery book of Lung's *Solarlord* covers turned up at a recent convention. I, as were many others, was informed that the works within were from the late 1980s and early 1990s. Given that 'fact,' the similarity between several of Lung's covers and Alex's pieces was disturbing. However, I spent

(Continues on Page 8)

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Auction Action

By Scott E. Green

The three major British die-cast toy brands (Corgi, Dinky, and Matchbox) often make toys, usually vehicles, that tie in with comic-book characters, cartoons, and other media images. Die-cast Toy Exchange, an auction house for die-cast toys, held an auction at its York, Pa., gallery May 29. A small but diverse group of die-cast toys with comics, cartoon, and film tie-ins were sold as part of the event.

From a comics collector's point of view, the most interesting lot was a



Die-cast media tie-in toys sell well at Pennsylvania auction

group of three Marvel Super Hero Limited Boxed sets by Corgi.

Each box had a reproduction of a front cover from the appropriate Marvel title and contained two British vans marked with Marvel super-hero decals.

The Marvel characters represented were The X-Men, Captain America, and Spider-Man (which had a reproduction of *Amazing Spider-Man* #16, featuring his first team-up with Daredevil). The group sold for only \$25.

The best performance was put in by a Corgi Junior Batman Gift Set which sold for \$280, followed closely by a Corgi Junior James Bond five-piece gift set that went for \$240, and an Avengers Gift Set that went for \$210.

Other comics-related die-cast toys sold included: a Corgi Batboat on Trailer set (\$90), and a Hot Wheels Captain America car (\$25).

A few die-cast toys inspired by animated cartoons also sold, including: a Corgi Junior Tom & Jerry set (\$30), a Corgi Junior Scooby & Friends set (\$95), a group of three Hot Wheels Simpsons sets (\$45), a group of three Matchbox Popeye character cars (\$125), and a Matchbox Walt Disney's SIT-N-GO W-1



Astrocar windup toy with Mickey at the wheel (\$210).

TV and film tie-in toys sold included: a Corgi Junior Man from U.N.C.L.E. set (\$160), an Ertl Smokey And The Bandit set (\$30), a Corgi Junior James Bond Aston Martin DB6 with working ejector seat (\$60), a pair of Corgi Junior Starsky & Hutch sets (\$85), a pair of Corgi Junior James Bond Moonraker sets (\$45), a Corgi Junior Monkeemobile with all four Monkees in the car (\$120), a Corgi Junior Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (\$75), and a group of nine Demolition Man vehicles in their individual blister packs (\$40).

Die-cast Toy Exchange can be reached at 405 Carlisle Ave., York, PA 17404, phone: (717) 854-8026, fax: (717) 845-2640.

ROSS

(From Page 6)

this past weekend surfing the net to further investigate the matter and discovered, as I had begun to suspect, that the Lung pieces in question dated no earlier than 1996, thus exonerating Alex, which should come as no small comfort to those of us who respect and admire Alex's work. Take it from me: case closed. The only swiping involved is Lung's pirating of Ross's covers, not vice-versa!"

While the rumors had had Ross fans buzzing, with Waid's public statement and other new information available, the tide has quickly turned to support Ross. Chris Abel, owner of Genesis Comics and webmaster of the Swipe of the Week website (www.genesiscomics.com/SOTW/) reported that, as of June 18, public opinion is that Khoo swiped his art for *Solarlord* #37 from the *Wizard Kingdom Come* cover by Ross.

Still, Ross said he felt more than a little burned by events. "I was pretty upset that people I'd worked with and respected for years didn't take me at my word and, despite my explanations otherwise, were still keeping their minds open to the possibility that I ripped this guy off," he said. "But what can you do? People will think what they're going to think even though there's plenty of evidence to the contrary, including a whole body of work and someone's word that they didn't do what they've been accused of. It's just time to move on."

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Dark Horse Extra #13
Dylan Dog #4
Ghost: Painful Music trade-paperback collection
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The Eyes of a Stranger #2

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*Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan and the
Jewels of Opar* trade-paperback collection
Gunslinger Cats: Bean Bandit #6
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Heart of Empire: Legacy of Luther Arkwright #3
Madman: Boogaloo! trade-paperback collection
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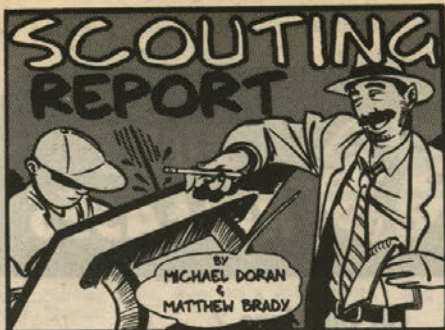
Austin Powers Statue
Blade of the Immortal #34: Food one-shot
Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan—
The Savage Heart #3
Ghost #10: *Shifter* #4
Madman #14
Nathan Never #4
Sergio Aragonés Boogeyman
trade-paperback collection
Star Wars #7
Wizards of the Coast
Hurlon Minotaur Statue
World Below #4
ZombieWorld: Tree of Death #1

On sale June 30

Buffy the Vampire Slayer #10
Classic Star Wars: A Long Time Ago . . . #4
Drakoon shot glass; *Drakoon Zippo* lighter
Grendel: Devil Child #1
Predator: Homeworld #4
Star Wars: Episode I The Phantom Menace—
Qui-Gon Jinn one-shot

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Polishing off Iron Man. Just weeks after giving fans a hint at his future career path by announcing his exit from Marvel's *Thunderbolts*, **Kurt Busiek** continued his professional change of course by announcing his departure from *Iron Man* as of this December. Citing the same reasons that prompted his departure from *Thunderbolts* — heavy workload, health concerns, interest in creator-



owned work and the birth of his daughter — Busiek said he and scripter **Roger Stern** would wrap up their run with *Iron Man* #25. He added that he'd get one last stab at the character with the long-awaited and oft-delayed *Iron Man: Look back in Armor* special.

Busiek said that the "character-oriented" one-shot, providing a "deep-down look at Tony Stark and why he is the way he is today," will finally answer questions that readers have been asking since the beginning of the year-long "Heroes Reborn": what happened to the "teen Tony" of pre-"Reborn" *Iron Man* continuity and why The Avengers don't treat Iron Man like a murderer, which he was seemingly revealed to be in the pre-"Reborn" Avengers crossover "The Crossing."

"I've finally made the time in my schedule to write it, and artist **Patrick Zircher** is championing at the bit to start drawing it — so, in many ways, what we intended to be a part of the beginning of my run on the character will be my swan song on the series," said Busiek. "I'm eager to get it done, and I'm hoping to make it my 'finest moment' with the character."

Fans of Busiek's Marvel work won't be left completely out in the cold, however, as Busiek reaffirmed his intention to remain on *The Avengers* for the foreseeable future. "I've signed a new agreement with Marvel that should see me on *Avengers* for at least another year. George Pérez will be there, too," said the writer.

Marvel announced that *Daredevil* pen-

ciller and "Marvel Knights" co-head **Joe Quesada** will take over as writer beginning with *Iron Man* #26, though Quesada told readers online, "My run will only be for four issues. What Kurt and Roger have done with the series has been amazing and will define the character for years to come. I've decided that the only way for me to take on Tony Stark and company is to set off on a completely different tangent."

"This four-issue arc will deal more with Tony out of the armor, and I really mean *out of the armor*. There'll be plenty of babes, brawls, and bad guys — but the main focus is going to be on Tony and certain elements of his life that he might not find quite so fulfilling."

Artist **Sean Chen** has confirmed he will remain with the title during Quesada's run and, barring factors beyond his control, plans to continue with the title when a new regular writer is named.

Gemstone is ducky. While it's not an official announcement yet, Gladstone President and Publisher **Bruce Hamilton** sent an open letter to Gladstone's Disney comics subscribers signaling that the Disney titles, which ceased publication several months ago, may be coming back. According to Hamilton's letter, **Steve Geppi** has been in serious discussions with the Walt Disney Company concerning Gemstone Publishing's acquisition of the Disney comic-book license.

"It is also my understanding that in an

effort to speed up negotiations and the resumption of subscription fulfillment, the two companies, at least in principle, have agreed to exchange Letters of Intent," wrote Hamilton. "If this is done quickly and the final commitments are made in June — as all indicators are pointing that they will — the chances are excellent that new issues will ship late this summer."

According to Hamilton, he's been informed by former Gladstone Editor **John Clark** that two months' worth of comics are mostly done and approved, and it's Hamilton's belief that there will be no fall-off in the quality of the Disney comic books the new publisher will produce. Hamilton went on to tell subscribers that he had received personal assurance from Geppi of his commitment to the project, and he, in turn, agreed to help in every way possible to ease the transition.

Awesome returns to former Glory. Awesome continues to return to publishing life in 1999 with September's release of *Glory and the Gate of Tears*, which will return Glory to her own series and place in the Awesome universe. According to Awesome President **Rob Liefeld**, the Glory series will be "written" by Alan Moore — utilizing the vast library of unpublished stories Moore wrote for Awesome before the company's financial difficulties forced it to suspend publication. The series is illustrated by **Art Thibert** and will utilize flashback sequences illustrated by **Melinda Gebbie**.

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775T	7 3/4 x 10 3/4	Silver/Gold Comics - 1950's-70's	21.50	(434)	71 (354)	305 (304)
800T	8 x 10 3/4	Gold Age Comics - 1940's-50's	22.50	(454)	74 (374)	320 (324)
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725SL	7 1/4	Standard Comics - 1970's-90's	9	(184)	32 (164)	140 (144)
775SL	7 3/4	Silver/Gold Comics - 1950's-70's	9	(184)	32 (164)	140 (144)
800SL	7 7/8	Gold Age Comics - 1940's-50's	9	(184)	32 (164)	140 (144)
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775M	7 3/4 x 10 3/4	Silver/Gold Comics - 1950's-70's	14	(144)	102 (104)	
800M	8 x 10 3/4	Gold Age Comics - 1940's-50's	15	(154)	106 (114)	
825M	8 1/4 x 10 3/4	Super Gold Age Comics	15	(154)	112 (114)	
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700M2	7 x 10 3/4	Current Comics - 1990's	9.00 (184)	30 (154)	130 (134)
725M2	7 1/4 x 10 3/4	Standard Comics - 1970's-90's	9.25 (184)	31 (154)	135 (134)
775M2	7 3/4 x 10 3/4	Silver/Gold Comics - 1950's-70's	9.50 (194)	32 (164)	140 (144)
800M2	8 x 10 3/4	Gold Age Comics - 1940's-50's	10.00 (204)	33 (164)	145 (144)
825M2	8 1/4 x 10 3/4	Super Gold Age Comics	10.50 (214)	35 (174)	150 (154)
875M2	8 3/4 x 10 3/4	Large Comics, Mag. & Letter	10.75 (214)	36 (184)	155 (154)
900M2	9 x 12	Standard Magazines	13.50 (274)	44 (224)	190 (194)
914M2	9 x 14 1/2	Legal Size	18.25 (364)	58 (284)	260 (264)
950M2	9 1/2 x 12 1/2	Sheet Music, Large Mag.	15.50 (314)	50 (254)	220 (224)
1013M2	10 x 13	Playboy Magazine	19.25 (384)	63 (314)	275 (274)
1114M2	11 1/2 x 14 1/2	Lobby Cards & Photos	25.00 (504)	83 (414)	360 (364)
1313M2	13 x 13	Records 33 rpm	25.00 (504)	83 (414)	360 (364)
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700HB	7 x 10 3/8	Standard Comics - fits 725	8.50 (84)	36 (74)	125 (64)	
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825HB	8 1/4 x 10 3/4	Large Comics, Mag. & Letter	12.00 (124)	50 (104)	170 (84)	
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700FB	7 x 10 3/8	Standard Comics - fits 725	10.00 (204)	32 (16)	140 (144)	
750FB	7 1/2 x 10 1/2	Silver/Gold Comics - fits 775	10.50 (214)	35 (174)	150 (154)	
758FB	7 5/8 x 10 1/2	Gold Age Comics - fits 800	11.25 (224)	37 (184)	160 (164)	
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725R	7 1/4 x 10 1/2	Standard Comics - 1970's-90's	16.25 (324)	54 (274)	235 (234)
775R	7 3/4 x 10 1/2	Silver/Gold Comics - 1950's-70's	16.75 (334)	55 (274)	240 (244)
800R	8 x 11	Gold Age Comics - 1940's-50's	17.75 (364)	59 (294)	255 (254)
825R	8 1/4 x 11	Super Gold Age Comics	18.50 (374)	61 (304)	265 (264)
875R	8 3/4 x 11	Large Comics, Mag. & Letter	20.25 (404)	65 (324)	290 (294)
900R	9 x 12	Standard Magazines	24.50 (494)	81 (404)	350 (354)
914R	9 x 14 1/2	Legal Size	29.50 (594)	97 (484)	420 (424)
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1620R	16 1/2 x 20 1/2	Photo, Original Art	23.00 (2.30)	95 (1.90)	330 (1.65)
1721R	17 1/2 x 21 1/2	Art, Newspaper	23.75 (2.38)	97 (1.94)	340 (1.70)
1824R	18 1/2 x 24 1/2	Art, Photo, Maps	30.50 (3.05)	125 (2.50)	435 (2.18)
2436R	24 1/2 x 36 1/2	Newspapers, Posters	43.25 (4.33)	177 (3.54)	620 (3.10)
3626R	36 1/2 x 26 1/2	Maps	50.50 (5.05)	208 (4.16)	720 (3.60)
2819R	28 3/4 x 19 1/2	Maps, Atlas Pages	39.25 (3.93)	161 (3.22)	560 (2.80)
3143R	31 x 43	Posters, Maps	70.00 (7.00)	288 (5.76)	1000 (5.00)
3648R	36 1/2 x 48 1/2	Maps, Newspapers	86.25 (8.63)	362 (7.24)	1260 (6.30)
4836R	48 1/2 x 36 1/2	Newspapers, Maps	88.25 (8.83)	362 (7.24)	1260 (6.30)
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Film Roman gets freaky

Film Roman, the studio responsible for *The Simpsons* and *King of the Hill*, has signed an agreement to develop an animated feature based on *The Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers* through a joint venture with series creator **Gilbert Shelton**. **Mike Anderson** (*The Simpsons*) will direct the film from a script he wrote which is intended to be faithful to Shelton's underground comix stories about the three hippie brothers: cowboy-hatted Freewheeling Frank, mad inventor Phineas, and Fat Freddy as well as Fat Freddy's vicious, cunning, and randy cat.

Scott is Wolverine. As previously rumored in *Mass o' Media*, **Dougray Scott** has officially signed to play Wolverine in the upcoming *X-Men* live-action feature directed by **Bryan Singer**. According to *Variety*, Scott's contract includes a sequel option; it's said that Fox brass is confident the Scottish actor can become a franchise lead. "Bryan was incredibly demanding over who could play the character, and we needed to find somebody who was dynamic," said Fox President **Tom Rothman**. "Dougray has the charisma, the physicality, and the intensity."

Scott is in Australia to play the villain in *Mission: Impossible 2*, directed by **John Woo**. He wraps filming there in September, the same month filming for *The X-Men* is set to begin in the Toronto area.

In other *X-Men* news, roles remaining to be cast include Rogue, Cyclops, Senator Kelly, Mystique, and possible cameos by Gambit and Jean Grey. According to inside rumors, Iceman and The Beast may be computer-generated.

Additionally, an official teaser poster for the film has been released by Fox, showing Wolverine's hands, with claws extended, forming an "X." *The X-Men* is due in theaters next summer.

Scorsese to do Page film? *Variety* is reporting that **Martin Scorsese** is eyeing **Liv Tyler** to play **Bettie Page** in a film about the life of the young model best-known in the comics industry as **Cliff Secord's** girlfriend in **Dave Stevens' Rocketeer** series. For those familiar with Tyler's appearance, the resemblance to Page is uncanny.

According to *Variety's* report, Page "bore the burden of being a cheesecake pioneer, including being grilled by a Senate committee investigating juvenile delinquency, essentially a witch-hunt orchestrated by a senator from her home state of Tennessee bent on exploiting her as a stepping stone to the White House. Page retired shortly after the photographer who discovered her was ruined as a result of the probe. She has shunned most public appearances since the late '50s."

Mystery Men release bumped up. Universal has announced that, yet

again, it has moved the release date of the **Bob Burden**-based *Mystery Men* film up — from Aug. 6 to July 30. While plenty of information is available at the film's website (www.mysterymen.com), a snip of the film's stars can also be seen in the new video by the band **Smash Mouth** for its song "All Star," which is on the film's soundtrack.

Dark Horse movie news. According to **Rob Worley's** Comics 2 Films website, **Peter Jackson** (*The Frighteners*) has written and delivered a screenplay for **Paul Chadwick's** *Concrete*. The project is set to film at Disney with Dark Horse producing and Chadwick on board as creative consultant. If all goes as planned, a summer 2001 release is expected.

In other "Dark Horse goes Hollywood" news, *Lords of Misrule* is set for development at Universal with a screenplay by **Ted Kennenbaum** (*Fantastic Voyage* remake).

Also, a movie adaptation of **Frank Miller** and **Geof Darrow's** gritty *Hard Boiled* is seeing activity again, thanks to **Nicholas Cage** showing interest in the role of insurance investigator-cyborg unit four, **Carl Seltz**.

Finally, *Hellboy* concept art has been developed by **Wayne Barlow** for the upcoming *Hellboy* movie, based on **Mike Mignola's** dark and humorous comic series. **Guillermo del Toro** is set to direct.

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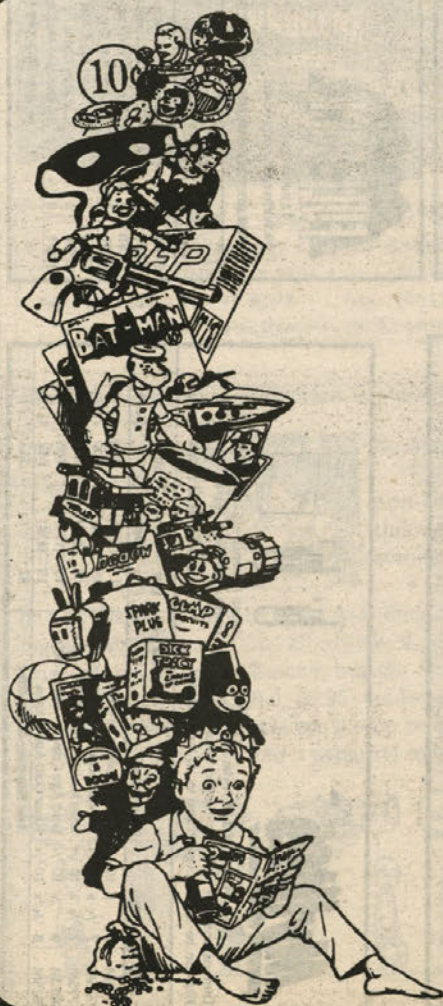
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Raphael Laufer

6059 Palladium Ct., #302
Alexandria, VA 22315

Any plans to collect Mr. Silver Age's columns into a paperback of some type? [What do other readers think of the idea?]

Tom Takach

5693 34th Ave. N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33710

I can't be the only subscriber out here who has, as a key motivation for plunking down the coins for each week's issue, the reading and enjoying of Mark Evanier's writing.

My question is this: How do those of us interested in such an endeavor drum up support for getting a book by him published? Whether it was a new effort or contained reprints of some of his older *Point of View* columns would be equally great!

[Folks who'd like to see such a thing could start by dropping us a postcard to request such a volume. (Are we on a roll or what?)]

Joe Petrilak

I consider myself lucky to have known Paul Newman for a short time. Once again, it is sad and unfortunate that Paul's moment in the spotlight turned out to be his obituary. One day in 1997, Paul gave me a phone call out of the blue.

Actually, it was not that easy. I met

Frank Bolle, the incredibly prolific artist (Crown Comics, Magazine Enterprises, Gold Key, then Winnie Winkle for 20 years) after a long search to track down original Gold Key artists, and Frank was more than happy to meet me. I interviewed him, and one of the questions I asked was, "Who wrote the Gold Key stories?" His answer was "Paul Newman." That is when I learned about Paul Newman.

A few months later, out of the blue, Paul Newman called me. "I heard you have some original Gold Key *Turok* art." We spoke quite a while that day, and in the following months I got to know him. I gave him most of my *Turok* Page One splashes. He wanted the page where it read, "Writer — Paul Newman, Art — Alberto Giolitti," which I was happy to part with, considering who he was. He was happy to finally get it.

One day I asked to interview him. "You know I am the most prolific comic-book artist, don't you?" he said. I had no idea. I knew he wrote most of Gold Key's output at the time, and it published quite a bit in its heyday, but I didn't know he did that — and so much more!

He sent me an old interview someone had taken, an almost-complete checklist of his comics and other goodies which I was happy to receive, and we became friends.

I did ask him once what he thought about *Turok* and *Solar*'s relaunch with

Valiant Comics. He was not happy. "What's this with *Turok* and a machine gun shootin' up the place? My *Turok* never had a machine gun; he had a bow and arrow. My *Turok*'s ace in the hole was poison arrows; no one in The Lost Valley had poison arrows, so that was enough to get *Turok* through the day. But this new *Turok* — not for me.

"And *Solar*? What the hell is going on with *Solar* naked on the cover? [At the time, Acclaim was relaunching the new *Solar* and was in the midst of "Solar: Hell on Earth." Issue #4 had the two *Solars* on the cover unclothed.] *Solar* should not be naked!" Never got around to interviewing him; he was a good talker, which is why I guess he was such a good writer.

But he wrote more. Lots more. Thousands of comics more. Fact is, he was not given credit for more comic books than he was given credit for in his career. And now he's gone.

Perhaps this would be a good time to ask all CBG readers to submit various fanmag interviews, bios, checklists, and such — and perhaps we should start building the list for creators, the definitive "who's who" in comics. I don't want to learn about a creator's accomplishments for the first time in their obituaries any more.

[Well, actually, we *did* run an article paying tribute to Paul while he was alive. In #1269, I ran a sidebar to Mark

(Continues on Page 16)

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Oh, So?

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Evanier's column on prolific comics creators, pointing out Paul's status in *Guinness*. Mark himself discussed Paul in #1290. And in #1291, Michael Dean did a feature article which began on Page 8, "Paul S. Newman celebrates 50 years in comics and a world record."

And, of course, we set aside this March for a tribute to the past decades of comics, one decade per month — and take similar looks back as often as possible, including Gil Kane in #1335.

There certainly have been some outstanding articles on creators over the years. AC Comics' Bill Black, for example, just provided photocopies of a wonderful article on Jesse Marsh by Russ Manning. The article had appeared in 1972 in Bill Schelly's *Sense of Wonder*. Cool!!

Patrick Beagan

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As a decade(s?)-long subscriber to *CBG*, I've been moved for the second time to write and share, yet this is actually the first time physically doing so. The passing of Don had me feeling woefully inadequate in being unable to communicate my thoughts; fortunately, our readership community far more eloquently expressed my feelings and has had me nodding in agreement for years. I've even sat staring at the above for several minutes, once again at a loss. I lost my father shortly after Don's passing, and, just as I lost my best friend in Dad and think of him daily, I think of Don every week.

It's time for all of us to join *CBG* in singing the praises of Human Computing's *ComicBase*. How great is this software program? Not only is it fun to use and incredibly powerful, but it deserves to ultimately become an "industry standard" for comics collectors, hand-in-hand with the *Overstreet Price Guide*.

I've documented my 30+-year-old collection in a few weeks, and it's the type of database that one can "play with" and fine-tune endlessly. I was thrilled that my monthly comics shipment came yesterday, primarily because I had run out of comics to input — it's that good.

It seems that all the nice things said about Pete Bickford are accurate, as well. I e-mailed Human Computing about correcting some problem I created (which is hard to do with *ComicBase*; I am the Homer Simpson of computing), and, not only did I get a prompt response and solution, but it was from the creator himself. (Thanks again, Pete!)

This is an important product that deserves all of our support. Take a break from buying variant covers for a while and treat yourself to something really special.

While on the topic of things that are great, for those of you considering mail-order or online subscribing comics, check out *Collector's Corner* (www.collectors-corner.com). Michael Robinson runs a great service — professional, prompt, personal and friendly. I'd used one of the largest mail-order services for 10+ years, and the service had dwindled to simply "prompt." With so many choices available to collectors, each purchase we make is like voting, shaping the industry.

It's important to support people like Pete and Michael. They simply make collecting easier and more fun. Isn't that what it's all about?

[I'm still at the "beginners" stage with *ComicBase*, myself. That's the stage at which you think it might be humanly possible to provide all the notations you could ever want to add (Hostess ads, circulation statements, notable letters column writers) on each comic book you own. That level of input seems to be locked in to requiring five minutes per issue. I suspect that when I actually get my comics in order, the process of "filling in the blanks" will reach the perfunctory level of noting what I have and in what condition.

And that's another cool thing about the program: You can get as anally retentive or as speedy as you choose. Isn't it fun?]

Larry Hayes

Dyed-in-the-wool Axel and Alex addict

339 Cambridge

Ashland, OR 97520

This letter would have been sent sooner, but I finally used the free classifieds after subscribing for years, and they produced such a response that it took some time to get back to everybody. Let me just say thanks to *CBG* for the ads; they really work.

I was interested and pleased to see the recent coverage of the history of those old Warner Bros. cartoons in a column by Mark Evanier, and I believe it was the same issue which had a news item about how well the new Batman animated series was doing in the ratings. Since that article was printed, I've learned that the show has had new episodes OK'd by the WB powers that be, and I'm thrilled, since I enjoy the show. However, the article about the ratings raised a question for me: Do ratings ever take into account people not watching the show live?

I know a lot of people who watch the Batman-Superman hour on WB here, but I don't know any who actually get up at 6 a.m. on Sunday to catch it. We all watch on tape. I assume we are not the only ones. Just made me curious, you know. If not for my VCR, I would have missed the wonderful Superman story using Jack Kirby's Fourth World people and concepts, which immediately became one of my favorite animated stories, ever. My thanks to the creators behind this fitting tribute to The King.

Secondly, I was thrilled to see a review of Terry Flippos' *Axel and Alex* in John Jackson Miller's column in *CBG* #1324, all the way up until I read it, and saw the grades he gave it. Ouch! Had I not been ridiculously busy at the time, I would have written then. Then Terry Flippo wrote in in *CBG* #1328, and JJM's response to Terry's letter was small comfort and in some ways made matters even worse. Now I feel compelled to respond.

Miller is obviously expected to have his own opinion, or why have him do a review? But to call Flippos' art "very rough" is simply not true. If anything, Terry's love of detailed backgrounds gave his early *Axel and Alex* comics a very dense look, like Geof Darrow (but not that detailed). But "very rough," especially when reviewing a "mini-comic," is going to lead the average reader of the review to come away with a very different image of the art than what the *Axel and Alex* series contains. I've seen "very rough" in comics, and this ain't it.

(Continues on Page 18)

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Oh, So?

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In "mainstream" comics, I'd say that designation might be appropriate for a Mark Badger, for example. In minis, I wouldn't know any names, because a "very rough" in a mini-comic sense usually means one I couldn't stomach struggling all the way through, before it became kindling in my wood stove. The story that JJM reviewed was one in which a lot of the story took place in tunnel-like sewers, with a lot of detailed brick walls. For this reason only, I could see where JJM would comment in his *Oh, So?* response that he had to "hunt for a panel that would reproduce well on newsprint." Otherwise, I don't get it.

What I want to convey to anyone who might read this is that, while there is consistent improvement from story to story in all the series, it was never "very rough," even in the earliest stories. People look like people, and the retro robot Axel just looks plain cool. More important, these people look like the same people, panel to panel and page to page, which is not something you see in "rough" art, much less "very rough."

Heck, many mainstream titles suffer from an artist's seeming inability to keep characters consistent. Many a super-hero title in recent years has had a character look seven feet tall in one panel and four feet in the next — or women who seem to change bust size and leg length with every panel. To me, that is rough art.

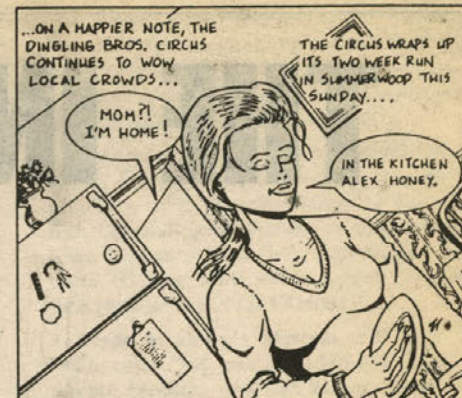
Anyway, I strongly suggest any of you out there who enjoy stories like *Leave It to Chance* (he's not as polished as Paul Smith, but who is?), or *Akiko* to give *Axel and Alex* a chance. I've given several copies to kids, and, I can tell you, they love them!

I respect the fact that Miller is just doing his job as a reviewer but I will read his reviews in a somewhat altered light after feeling he missed so wide on this one. We all find a resonance with reviewers whose tastes seem to mesh with our own, and I lost my resonant reviewer for movies when Siskel and Ebert sadly just became Ebert. I look to *CBG* for guidance on comics and really like the panel format for reviewing, because you can sometimes see widely different grades on one title, along with the individual reviewer's reasons for assigning a specific grade.

[The way to use *any* reviewer is to see how his or her tastes reflect your own and — as you will — let yourself use that as a guide. The two most useful reviewers are the one whose taste is identical to yours — and the one whose taste is the exact opposite of yours. I, too, enjoy the panels for the variety of response.

Regarding *Axel and Alex*, however (art from #5 shown here), I've gotta go with John as regards the art. Yes, you can tell people from trees. Yes, there are detailed backgrounds. But I'd opt for fewer pickets in the fence and individual tiles on the wall if I could have all the hands drawn with the fingers connecting properly with the palm. Or fewer bricks in the sewer in exchange for characters' jaws positioned workably on their heads.

When we run reviews, we do it for people who are making up their minds what to buy — and, with limited space, we attempt to give a



picture of what to expect. *A&A* is \$2 for 34 pages of 5½ x 8½ black-and-white comic-book story. John's review put it in context and clearly conveyed that it had merits "beyond the polish."

And, now that we've virtually conducted our own panel on *A&A*, let me remind readers that the trade paperback which contains the first four issues is \$5.95 postpaid with checks made out to Terry Flippo. That's Daddy-O Press, 205 Breezewood Ct., Mt. Airy, MD 21771.]

Matt Williams
180 Manning Dr.
Alpharetta, GA 30004

Thank you, John Jackson Miller, for assuring me that someone else in the world is thinking about the 10th anniversary of Tim Burton's take on Batman. Tony Isabella has often written about the Golden Age of comics being age 10. For me, the Golden Age was 13. It was 1989, the 50th anniversary of the character whom I had just rediscovered a scant two years before, when I read *Batman: Year One* and *The Killing Joke*. As a result of reading those books, he had become my favorite character once again. With much trepidation, I awaited the debut of the new movie. I soaked up whatever details about it I could in the pages of *Starlog* and *Comic-Scene*. I still have a videotape of many of the promotional stories that aired on *20/20* and *Entertainment Tonight*. Yes, I was an obsessed little fanboy.

Unlike most of my fellow fans, though, I did not immediately call for the lynching of Tim Burton upon hearing the news of whom he had cast in the title role. I knew that Keaton had done drama before and was perfectly capable of pulling off Batman. In fact, my real fear was that a muscle-bound goon would be cast in the role. Still, there was a part of me that sat in that theater on opening weekend, afraid that my Batman would again be the subject of camp treatment. I still remember the lights going down and the first notes of Danny Elfman's brooding score reverberating throughout the theatre. It was then I knew that everything was OK, that, for the most part, Tim Burton and company understood the character.

Yes, there are plot holes, but I've "No-Prized" most of those away in my mind over the years. What I cared about was the spirit of the character. In that 13-year-old's heart, Hollywood finally did right by The Batman. Thanks for taking this 23-year-old back to the Golden Age.

John Slater
6838 Williams Trail
Grayling, MI 49738

I just read the letter in issue #1328 from
(Continues on Page 20)



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Oh, So?

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Gary Miller and felt the need to respond. It sounds as though Miller is getting a quick education in the problems one faces when trying to sell comics. (Been there!) I do have some helpful hints:

1) Never, ever buy comics with the idea of being able to quickly resell them unless they are true key comic books — by this, I mean such comic books as *Fantastic Four* #1, *Hulk* #1, *Spidey* #1, etc. Even then, you may encounter problems like the ones you described (apathy, rejection, etc.) Buy comics because they are something you would like to own. That way, if you are stuck with them, it is no problem.

2) Take a weekend and make a detailed list of every comic book, in the proper alphabetical and numerical order, with what you think the correct grade is. Perhaps you could purchase an *Overstreet Grading Guide* beforehand and study that sucker to erase any doubt as to what grade to assign each comic book; it also helps to note any significant flaws and to check the paper quality (also known as the *Overstreet Whiteness Level*) of each issue — the grading guide includes a card to help in this area, which shows the different levels of paper quality. Perhaps you already are aware of this, but it is worth the time and effort to refresh your memory, even if you are an expert (or as you put it, a so-called professional).

3) Never, ever let anyone know the minimum you are willing to accept for a comic book or group of comics. By doing that you have lost all your negotiating powers. For instance, you said in your letter you were secretly hoping to get 1/4 guide for your books; it is far better to name a price about 20% below guide and see if anyone jumps on it. 20% below guide is certainly a fair price for a nice collection; if you don't get a quick sale, you can always lower your price a little later. In other words, don't let them go too cheap or you will probably kick yourself later on.

4) In my experiences I have come to a stunning conclusion: Don't try to sell to a shop owner, dealer, or any other so-called professional unless you are desperate. The startling truth is that most of them do not have the time or the interest to look at your comic books. If they do, you will usually get a pathetic offer for your comic books, even if they are in exceptional condition. Forgetaboutit! Your goal is to find the person or persons who actually need the comic books you have. When you finally do find that elusive enigma, be prepared for possible rejection. The buyer has all the advantages; he or she can simply pass on your comic books and continue looking.

5) I highly recommend placing some classified ads (free with a subscription) in *CBG*. As Maggie stated in her reply, it is probably wise to split the comic books up into lots or, better yet, single issues. You will usually do far better this way (although it takes longer).

6) If you still end up being stuck with your comic books, chock it up to experience and enjoy the reading pleasure they will give you for years to come — you can always wait a while and try to sell them again someday. And let this

be a defining moment for you. You can now say with some authority you are a "so-called comics professional." Good luck!

[As you've seen by now from his letter in #1331, Miller has now received a better response to his situation. Your advice is excellent — and we hope other readers who are looking to sell their comics will consider the suggestions.]

Kevin M. Hennessey

Linear Man ad infinitum, F.O.E.

Real Frantic One (ret.)

In answer to your invitation to discuss Diamond's recent revelations at DC's retailer meeting in March, I offer this:

Several comics-shop owners I know have told me that the reason that they don't carry *CBG* is that they would be, in effect, helping their own retail competition, since you run advertisements from other comics dealers, mail-order or otherwise.

To me, this is a specious argument, because the shop owners have no problem pricing their own collectibles at price levels their competitors, who advise price guides on "market value," set. The idea that there is no such thing as a market value — just whatever certain dealers can sell their wares for — is lost on those who will sell price guides but not *CBG*.

Crisis on Infinite Earths, a series which a lot of work went into making, is probably the longest "Elseworlds" story DC has published so far. It is a production worthy to stand head and shoulders above any of the "Imaginary Stories" produced during the Weisinger era as well as another publisher's *What If's*. I hear that originally it was meant to amend the canon law of the DC universe, effecting badly needed changes in a shared universe supposedly rife with continuity gaffes.

When John Byrne revamped Superman, he eliminated Superboy from the mythos of steel, consigning the Earth-One Supes to a "pocket universe" whence he came only to get 86ed by the Time Trapper, as part of Trappy's overall scheme to shmegegge The Legion of Super Heroes.

You all still with me here? Well, since the inspiration for The Legion's banding in the first place grew up — before getting killed, of course — to battle the anti-Monitor alongside folks from past, present, Earths One, Two, 87, L, Charlton, and a legion — ahem — of *et ceteras*, guess where the Crisis happened? Yep, the "pocket universe of finite infinite Earths."

Oh, yeah, Superboy bought it before he became Superman. Good work! Kamandi's future conflicting with the Legions ain't so bad, somehow.

[Yes, in the 16-or-so years I've been editing *CBG*, the old "CBG carries ads for other comics sources" excuse for not carrying *CBG* gets trotted out by some store owners. Those same store owners carry price guides with ads for store competitors both on- and offline, including stores in their own areas and mail-order services. They carry comics with comics-shop-locator-service toll-free numbers. But *CBG* spooks 'em. Go figure.]

On the other hand, we find from other store owners and our own readers that ads and editorial material have tipped them off to comics they'd have never thought of buying otherwise. Must add up to increased sales for someone, huh?

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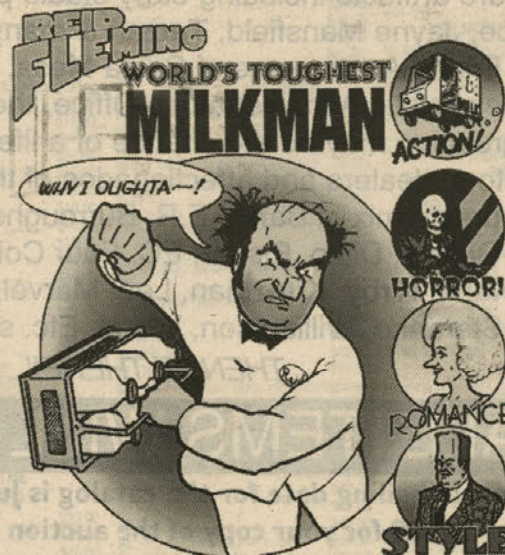
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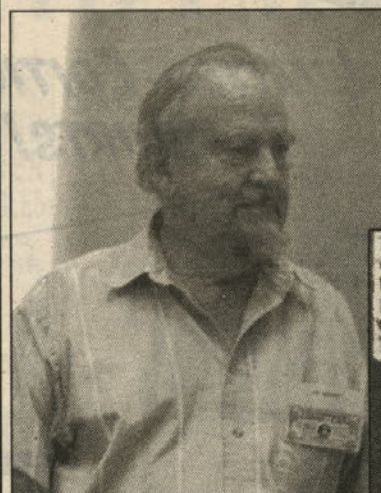
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Also in this issue, **CBG's** retailer panel looks at titles scheduled to ship in September. Also, a new issue of *GameTime* is inserted free.

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To request a registration or hotel reservation form via fax: (619) 685-6985.

E-mail: ccweb@aol.com

Website: <http://www.comic-con.org>

Mailing address: Comic-Con International, P.O. Box 128458, San Diego, CA 92112.

30 years of Comic-Con culminate in August event

This year's Comic-Con International: San Diego, the largest comics convention in the United States, with more than 20,000 attendees, celebrates three decades of the convention, from the earliest days at the El Cortez Hotel up through the Golden Hall '80s and San Diego Convention Center '90s. A series of panels covering each decade of the show's evolution are scheduled so that attendees can share memories.

In addition and as part of its ongoing commitment to education, Comic-Con will once again be host of the Comic Arts Conference, a leading U.S. academic conference on comics. A wide variety of workshops and seminars are also planned.

"If you're a fan of film, comic books, science fiction, and the popular arts, Comic-Con is for you," said Comic-Con International Director of Marketing David Glanzer. "We have programs on breaking into the comic-book business, breaking into film, acting, and writing — even portfolio reviews for up-and-coming writers and artists."

A plethora of programs. Programming is the heart and soul of Comic-Con. Dozens of panels and presentations celebrating comics, graphic novels, animation, television, and film are held at the San Diego Convention Center.



Thompson

Among events planned are panels celebrating Batman's 60th anniversary with artist Jerry Robinson and other Golden Age creators; Neil Gaiman, Jill Thompson, and other artists observing the 10th anniversary of *The Sandman*; and a celebration of the 50th anniversary of Walt Kelly's syndicated *Pogo* newspaper strip.

Animation on television and in film is touted — with panels on new shows, new creators, and issues that face the medium on the eve of the 21st century. Panels already scheduled include the Spike and Mike Festival of Animation; previews of upcoming animation from MTV Animation, Nickelodeon, and Cartoon Network; and discus-

sions with creators who are shaping the future of animation.

Creator roundtables provide an opportunity for a limited number of fans to have an informal discussion with a favorite creator. The first 20 attendees who sign up at the start of the day will be able to join a participating creator for an "anything goes" discussion of his or her work. A similar program, Artists' Insights, is a series of formatted workshops in which cartoonists demonstrate an element of their craft to a room of attendees. Both of these programs are ticketed, with tickets distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

An educational series of panels gathered under the heading "Breaking and Entering" gives attendees a chance to learn tricks of the trade for breaking into pop-culture industries. Topics covered include: Assembling a Winning Portfolio, Writing for Comics, Writing for TV and Film, Writing for Animation, Writing for the SF/Fantasy Market, Writing Comic Strips, Pencilling for Comics, Coloring for Comics, Inking Comics, Lettering Comics, Drawing for Comic Strips, Breaking into Illustration, Toy Design, Acting, Voice Acting, Costume Design, Editing Comics, Editing for the SF/Fantasy Market, and Self-Publishing: Just the Facts.

Guests galore. As the biggest comics convention in America, Comic-Con naturally attracts hundreds of comics professionals to each year's show. Guests scheduled to attend include: Will Eisner, Sergio Aragonés, Matt Groening, Barry Windsor-Smith, Mark Evanier, Jim Starlin, Larry Gonick, Art Spiegelman, Jim Steranko, Dave Stevens, Ray Lago, Arnold Drake, Gill Fox, Irwin Hasen, Tom Batiuk, Patrick McDonnell, Scott Shaw, Bruce Timm, Paul Dini, and Dan Clowes.



Dini

Seduction of the Innocent returns. Musical comics professionals and fans Bill Mumy, Miguel Ferrer, Max Allan Collins, Steve Leialoha, and Chris Christensen

first formed their band in 1988 to play for the party following the Comic-Con's Eisner Awards banquet. The band appeared at several Comic-Con's in the following years and released their album *The Golden Age* before disbanding in 1994 after the Comic-Con's 25th anniversary. The group has reunited for this year's con.

Who will win an Eisner? Comic-Con is also the site for the presentation of the Eisner Awards, Friday night in the Hyatt Ballroom. Nominees were announced in *CBG* #1329.



Eisner

Make up for the Masquerade. In addition to guests, panels, workshops, and movie previews, Comic-Con holds its 25th annual masquerade on Saturday night starting at 8 p.m. at the Convention Center. Last year the event attracted more than 3,500 attendees; it is a contest and show that last year featured 50 entries (98 costumes) crossing the large stage. Several large ceiling-hung projection screens allow everyone in the audience views of the costumes.

Companies donating prizes this year include: DC (\$300 cash for the best re-creation of a DC character or characters); *Comics Buyer's Guide* (\$250 in *CBG* Bonus Bucks redeemable with any dealer at the show or any *CBG* advertiser); graphic animator Alan Campbell (\$100 cash to the costume he deems his favorite); Dark Horse (\$200 cash plus collectibles for the best Dark Horse-based costume); Syco Distribution (\$200 certificate for best Japanese anime costume, \$100 certificate for runner-up anime, \$50 certificate for third-best, and a \$50 certificate for best young anime); and Troma (\$200 plus collectibles to the costume it deems as most likely to inspire a Troma film). *Comic-Con* of San Diego is a new masquerade sponsor and will give a \$100 gift certificate plus \$50 cash to the best costume based on a small-press title; the category is new this year.

Ticket information ...

Pre-registration by mail

(must be postmarked by July 2)

Adults: Entire show — \$55; single day (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) — \$20; Sunday — \$10

Children (7-16) and Seniors (60+): Entire show — \$27; single day (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) — \$10; Sunday — \$5

Pre-registration by fax

(available July 3-23 at (619) 544-0743;

requests received after July 23 will not be processed)

Adults: Entire show — \$60; single day (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) — \$20; Sunday — \$10

Children (7-16) and Seniors (60+): Entire show — \$30; single day (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) — \$10; Sunday — \$5

Membership badges requested by fax in this latter category will be held for pickup at the convention.

Registration at the door:

Adults: Entire show — \$60; Single day ticket prices to be announced.

Children (7-16) and Seniors (60+): Entire show — \$30; single day ticket prices to be announced.

San Diego Pro/Con has pro offerings ...

Running simultaneously with this year's Comic Book Expo for comics-shop retailers will be Pro/Con, a gathering of comics industry professionals, to exchange ideas, network, and attend seminars tailored to their needs and concerns.

This is the second year Pro/Con has been handled by Comic-Con International. Previously, the convention was held prior to WonderCon in Berkeley, Calif.

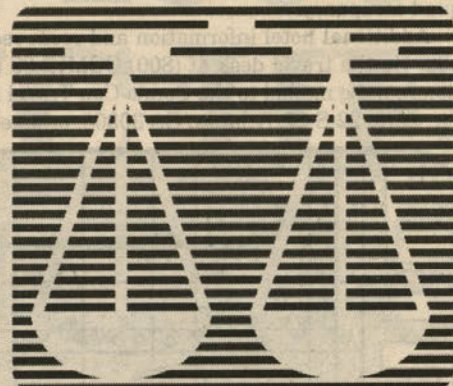
Events are scheduled for both the San Diego Convention Center and Marriott Hotel and Marina.

Topics scheduled to be covered include: the Internet market, the growing demand for comics in the mainstream print media, licensing comics properties to Hollywood, and merchandising properties.

Workshops demonstrating new technology for artists, life-drawing, and other elements of the artist's craft are also planned.

Registration per person is \$75 in advance by July 26. Registration at the door is \$100 per person. Requests for registration, including information on professional industry credentials can be sent to: Pro/Con Registration, Comic-Con International, P.O. Box 128458, San Diego, CA 92112-8458.

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Hotel scene ...

Reservations must be made by July 11 for the following hotels:

- Show headquarters will be in the Hyatt Regency (#1 on the map at right), two blocks from the Convention Center. Single-bed rooms are \$146 per night, single or double occupancy. Two-bed rooms are \$146 for double occupancy, \$166 for triple occupancy, \$186 for quad occupancy.

- Comic-Con's gaming headquarters is the Clarion Hotel (#2), also located two blocks from the Convention Center. All rooms, regardless of occupancy, are \$109.

- The Marriott Hotel & Marina (#3) is located next to the Convention Center and offers city-view rooms with a single bed for \$166, while the bay-view rooms are \$186. With two beds, the prices are \$166, \$186, or \$206 for city-view, while bay-view rooms are \$186, \$206, and \$226, depending on occupancy.

- Embassy Suites (#11), three blocks from the show, has single-bed rooms for \$143 for single occupancy and \$155 for double occupancy. Two-bed rooms go for \$155, \$171, or \$189 for double, triple, and quad occupancy, respectively.

- The Westin Horton Plaza (#12) is four blocks from the Convention Center and offers single-bed rooms for \$135 and two-bed rooms for \$135, \$150, or \$170, depending, again, on occupancy.

- The Westgate (#9) is seven blocks away and has single-bed rooms for \$130 with two-bed rooms at \$130, \$150, and \$170, depending on occupancy.

- Bristol Court (#6) is also seven blocks away from the show and has single-bed rooms for \$98, with two-bed rooms for \$108, \$123, and \$138.

- The Wyndham Emerald Plaza (#4) is eight blocks away from the Convention Center and offers all its rooms for \$129, regardless of occupancy.

- Marriott Suites (#8) is 12 blocks from the show and has rooms for \$110, single or double occupancy only.

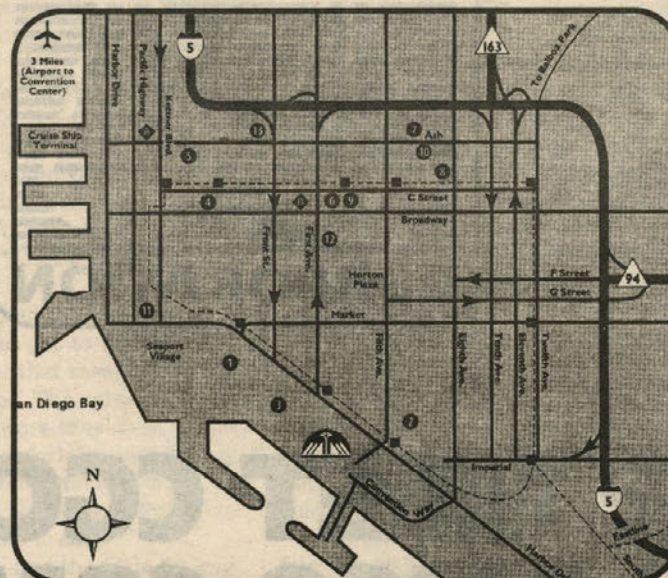
- Best Western Bayside Inn (#5) is 13 blocks away and has

single-bed rooms for \$93 with double-bed rooms for \$103, \$113, and \$123 for double, triple, or quad occupancy, respectively.

- Quality Inn & Suites (#7) is also 13 blocks away and has single-bed rooms for \$89 with double-bed rooms at \$89, \$92, and \$102.

- Comfort Inn Downtown (#10) is another hotel located 13 blocks from the show. It has single-bed rooms for \$86 with double-bed rooms for \$86 double occupancy, and \$96 for triple or quad occupancy.

Additional hotel information and room reservations are available via the travel desk at (800) COMIC-99 (266-4299). Reservations can be mailed to the Comic-Con Travel Desk, 240 Peachtree St., Suite 22-S-22, Atlanta, GA 30303, or faxed to (404) 584-0685.



What's at the show?

Typical of the sort of material found at Comic-Con International is an unusual item from Para-Troop Productions. Typical but unusual? You bet. That's the comics field. It's typical in that new publishers find San Diego to be a terrific venue in which to display new projects to the comics community. It's unusual in that this project is new only to publishing; the "comic strip" has been running for years, the product of a determined cartoonist whose audience has only been able to access it via the Internet.

Steve Troop began to tell his story, *Melonpool*, three years ago, posting his "gag-a-day" work on-line in a steady stream of comic strips, focusing on Mayberry Melonpool, captain of a spaceship (*The Steel Duck*), who — with cohorts ranging from an inventor and the inventor's clone, a telepathic dog alien, a 220-pound hamster, and a sensible young woman who seems to be of Melonpool's species — are stranded on Earth and trying to fit into its culture.

At San Diego, Para-Troop will provide an advance look at *The Ultimate Melonpool*, a 220-page, \$19.95 book containing more than 400 annotated strips. Fans and curious attendees will be able to find Troop in Artists Alley during the convention for the duration of the convention and Troop will have a limited-edition, signed picture of Melonpool for retailers.

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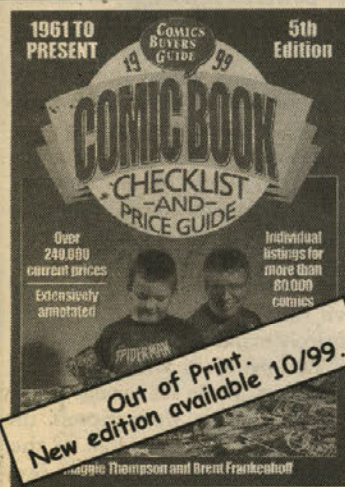


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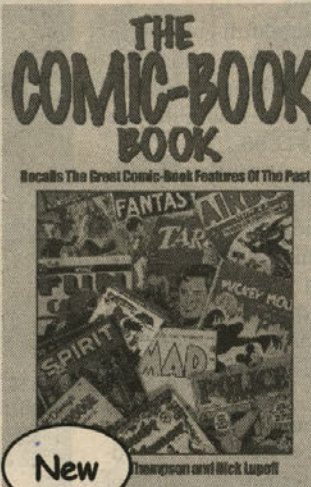
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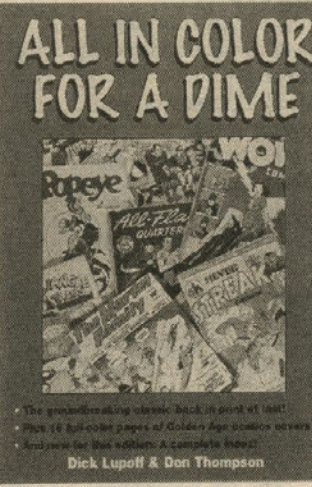


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by Tim Neely
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by Dana Cain
This price and identification guide tackles "real" and "fun" collectibles related to UFOs and aliens. From Japan-made tin flying saucers to the latest Roswell

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the ANIME/MANGA T-SHELF

This week in Japanese comics and animation

Drawing Winners

The winners of the drawing for anime tapes from Pioneer announced in the *Animation Buyer's Guide* inserted in *CBG* #1329 are:

Mike Altman of Bloomfield, N.J., has won copies of *Battle Athletes Victory* Vols. 1 and 2.

Tamara Hodge of Oklahoma City, Okla., has won copies of *Tenchi in Tokyo* Vols. 2 and 3.

Robert and Kim Loy of N. Charleston, S.C., have won copies of *Mysterious Play/Fushigi Yugi* Vols. 1 and 2.

Laura Nawricki in Washington, D.C., has won copies of *Battle Athletes* Vols. 1 and 2.

David Netchin of Skokie, Ill., has won copies of *Bastard!* Vols. 1-3.

Congratulations to the winners, and we hope you enjoy the tapes!

Viz

◆ Viz plans to expand its line of Pokémon products in September, adding a second comic book and a line of full-color story and activity books for children.

Pokémon Adventures follows the story of the original Game Boy game more closely. Team Rocket appears as the game's original black-clad, mask-wearing enemies, and Ash begins his adventures with a different set of Pokémon. Each issue of *Pokémon Adventures* will be a \$5.95 black-and-white 48-page squarebound comic book, with stickers included.

Pokémon Tales are 18-page full-color board

books priced at \$4.95, each featuring a different character. More than 40 books in this series have been produced in Japan. Titles coming from Viz first include: **Charmander Sees a Ghost**; **Come Out, Squirtle**; and **Pikachu's Day**.

With **Pokémon Origami**, you can fold your own Pokémon using the full-color pre-printed paper and step-by-step instructions included in this \$8.95 kit. Characters include Pikachu, Bulbasaur, Squirtle, Eevee, Zubat, and even Ash. 80 pages.

Let's Find Pokémon is a 22-page, full-color book showing hundreds of Pokémon at work and play. Eight spread-page dioramas show different locations in the Pokémon world, where you can find Pikachu and other Pokémon. Cover price is \$11.95.

◆ Following its limited theater run in the United States, **A Chinese Ghost Story: The Tsui Hark Animation** will be released on video in September. Based on a series of live-action films by Hong Kong's Tsui Hark, the animated version blends computer graphics with the director's trademark pacing to create a tale of demons, hungry ghosts, and timeless love. The 83-minute tape will retail for \$19.98 dubbed and \$24.98 subtitled.

◆ **Ranma 1/2 Martial Mayhem: Buns of Steel** is the first volume in a new season of *Ranma 1/2* video releases. Scheduled for September release, *Buns of Steel* contains a two-part story which reveals why Ranma always wears his hair in a pigtail. The 52-minute tape is dubbed in English and priced at \$24.95.

◆ **Ranma 1/2 Vol. 14** collects the second half of **Ranma 1/2 Part Seven** #9-14 into a 184-page, \$15.95 trade paperback. Stories include the original comics version of the *Ranma 1/2* videotape also scheduled for September release, as well as Ranma's participation in a three-legged race at a deadly hot springs obstacle course.

Coming in July ...

Reviewed by Joyce Greenholdt



Galaxy Fraulein Yuna Returns A.D. Vision

One can't help but be reminded of *Sailor Moon* by the premise of *Galaxy Fraulein Yuna*. A super-powered schoolgirl is hailed as a prophesied champion of Light and Goodness — heck, she's already saved the galaxy twice before the first *Yuna* tape begins. In *Yuna Returns*, her innate goodness has led to her acquiring a whole team of super-powered friends (including some former opponents). Good thing, too, since they're all about to be attacked by mysterious forces of evil (for reasons that are never entirely explained in the story).

The problem with *Yuna Returns* is that, while it's clearly more than just a *Sailor Moon* rip-off, its storytelling is flawed. Most of the characters lack personality. A few

\$14.98 dubbed, \$24.95 subtitled, 90 minutes, three episodes, suggested for ages 12 and up.

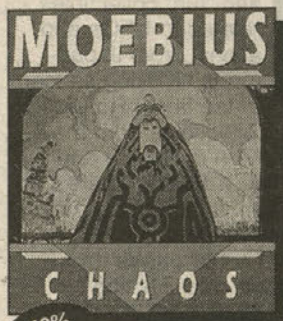
have distinctive traits — one's a celebrity, one eats a lot, another always ... talks ... very ... slowly — the rest are bland. Our heroine and one of the villains of the piece seem to have enough depth between them for a good-sized rain puddle, but that's it.

Part of the problem is almost certainly the English-speaking voice actors on the dubbed tape. Sub-par performances all 'round were further marred by several characters given high, squeaky voices which turned into incomprehensible shrieking when the story called for excited or angry delivery.

If you do decide to check this out, for your own sake, get the subtitled version. It may make more sense.



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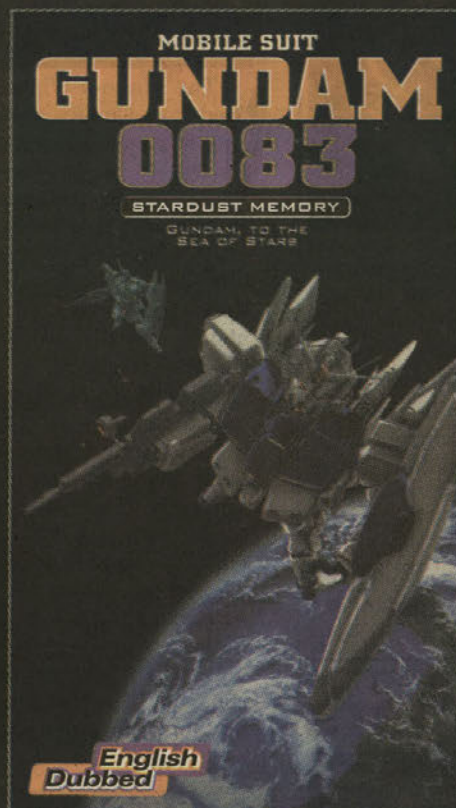
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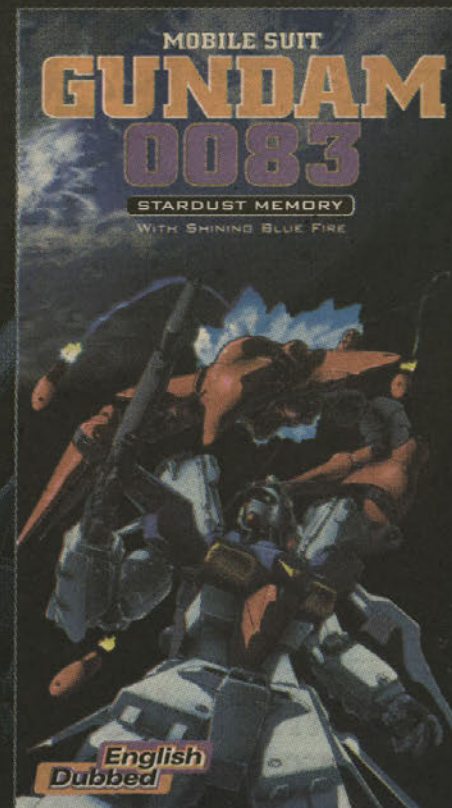
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Steranko storms San Diego



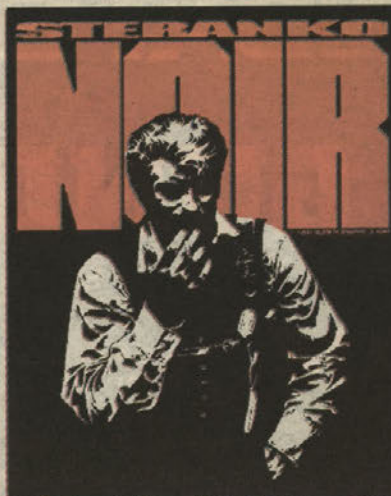
Jim Steranko, who has written and drawn stories of Captain America, X-Men, The Shadow, and Nick Fury appeared at last year's Comic-Con International: San Diego. Fan reception to the visit — his first in almost two decades — prompted convention officials to request his return this year as one of their featured 30th anniversary guests.

The show's graphic novel theme is especially significant because of Steranko's work on his visual adaptation of *Outland* and the hard-boiled Chandler detective noir thriller *Red Tide*. Moreover, Dark Horse has just announced its contract with Steranko to produce an uncensored edition of the book with new art, text, and coloring, later this year.

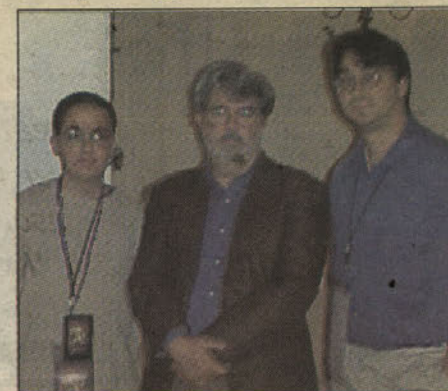
The con will introduce a wave of new Chandler work by Steranko, including: the program cover; a special-edition T shirt from Graphitti Designs; an exclusive behind-the-scenes preview book from Dark Horse; and a spotlight exhibit of the complete original art from the graphic novel.

Steranko's recent work will also be featured at the Byron Preiss, Penny-Farthing, and Supergraphics booths.

Vanguard Editor in Chief J. David Spurlock will join the creator, who will sign autographs and entertain attendees throughout the show at the Steranko booth.



Rojek grants a wish



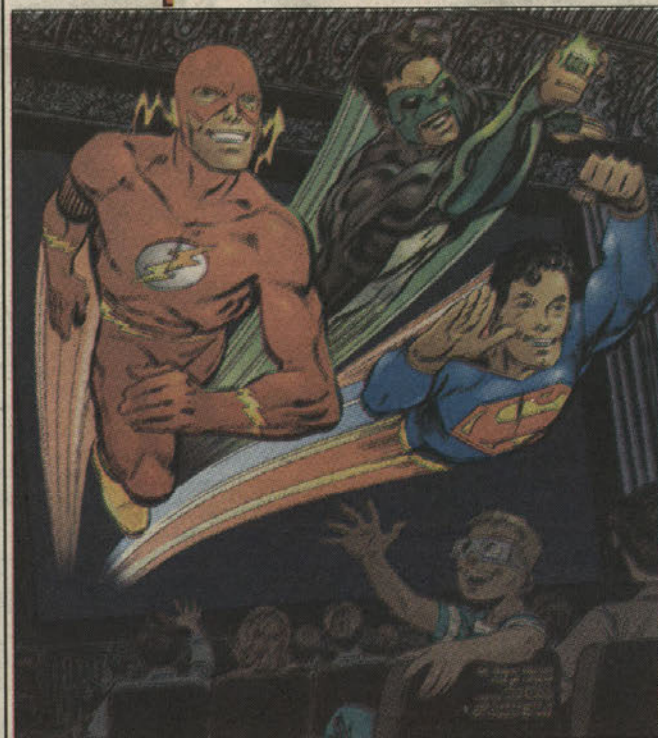
The Make-a-Wish foundation benefited from Comics and Comix's sponsorship of a special screening of *Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace* for the San Francisco Boys and Girls Club.

Three tickets to the event were given to Make-a-Wish by Comics and Comix owner Ross Rojek (right, above) and awarded to Silvio Oliveri (left, above) and his two brothers to attend the May 16 event.

Oliveri has a chronic lung disease and attendant complications. He and his family were flown to the event from their home in Potomac, Md., and attended both the movie premiere and after-movie party where Oliveri and Rojek met *Star Wars* creator George Lucas (center, above).

Rojek said he donated the tickets to Make-a-Wish because of his own cancer diagnosis when he was 25. Now 32, Rojek said, "I can't imagine the stress of having a life-threatening illness at an earlier age."

Two philatelic bonuses for comics collectors



Stamps have provided collectors with two separate incidences of comics-related tie-ins in recent months and many comics collectors may have missed the items.

While the backing boards for the U.S. Postal Service's "Celebrate the Century" stamp sheets have been blank for the stamps commemorating the 1900s through the 1940s, the backing board for the recently released 1950s stamps featured art starring The Flash, Green Lantern, and Superman in a 3-D-like effect (left).

CBG reader, comics expert, and prolific author Harlan Ellison has pointed out that the cover art for the dustjacket of *Gone With the Wind*, featured on the 1930s "Celebrate the Century" stamps (right), was done by comics artist George Carlson, better known for his work on the Golden Age *Jingle Jangle Tales*.



Marvel fans can start a doo-dad collection for their vehicles' radio antennas' with PWC Designs' Tenna Toppers.

While Spider-Man is the first in that fully licensed line, the company said it is seeking approval for its Captain America model and plans to introduce other models in the near future. The painted plastic foam balls will be available different ways: loose, in a plastic bag, or on a blister card. The suggested retail price per Tenna Topper is \$2.99.

Smith Brown Jones creator Jon "Bean" Hastings utilized the antenna topper concept a couple of years ago with his Pops action figure (left), which is **not** available from PWC. Hastings told CBG that if demand warrants it, he will make more action figures and they will be available (when he makes show appearances) for \$1 each.

In 1962, Stan Lee and Steve Ditko created what was to become one of America's greatest and most unlikely heroes when they transformed the shy teenager Peter Parker into the web-slinging, quick-witted Spider-Man. Now Gibson Guitar honors the Legends of both Spider-Man and Stan Lee with this very limited piece of original artwork...

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COMICS IN YOUR FUTURE

Publisher's & Retailer Picks For August releases

A number of publishers were recently asked to choose, from the material they have scheduled to ship in August, which titles they felt would be most worthy of the attention of readers and collectors. Participating retailers were then asked to predict how popular each title will be and to grade each preview from A+ to F, according to how successful they found it as a work of art or entertainment.



New Warriors #1

Marvel, 48 pages, color, \$2.99

Jay Faerber, Steve Scott, and Walden Wong revive Marvel's younger crime-fighting team when Speedball attempts to re-form the group to stop Blastaar. In addition to returning team members, a new hero, Aegis, joins the team.

Bennett: Warning: Here's a "do-over" of an old Marvel series that doesn't have DOA written all over it. It has crackling characters, top-notch art, and a script that's breezy and fun without ever becoming silly.

The standard super-hero situations are well handled with verve and energy, proving once again there's nothing wrong with the genre that plenty of enthusiasm can't fix. There are still a lot of *New Warriors* fans out there, and, with support from readers and retailers, here's a series that actually has a good chance of making it to #7 — and way beyond. Grade: B.

Bahls: My first reaction: Oh, no, Marvel is having another super-hero team resurface. But I was pleasantly surprised by the good storyline and work that Faerber did with this. It isn't just a rewriting of the same team but, as Speedball goes from one

past member of the team to another, he tries to reestablish the old group and at the same time fight Blastaar. Will the others join him or will he fight alone? Also, who are these new super-heroes, Jolt and Aegis? For fans of *The Avengers* and other Marvel super-hero titles everywhere. Grade: B+.

Keeney: *New Warriors* has terrific art. Even without a script, the art tells a strong, clear story. I'm sad to see the costume changes presented here. Speedball loses his silliness for a more mature, harsh look. Nova loses one of the coolest and most unusual costumes since Jack Kirby did character designs for Marvel for a generic "dark" outfit with spikes. Overall, it looks promising, and I hope these changes are not just for change's sake but have a point in the plot. Grade: B.

Mateer: This is perfectly OK,

straight-down-the-middle super-hero storytelling, done with affection and an appealingly clean style. It's not startling or innovative but it gets the job done. Points for: getting rid of the unfortunately named Night Thrasher (insert your own joke here); keeping Nova, Namorita, and Speedball; and making the first issue a self-contained, stand-alone story — at 48 pages for \$3, it's not a bad deal. Grade: B-.

Biggers: I was a fan of *New Warriors* the first time around, so I was predisposed to like this one. It's not as strong on characterization as the Nicieza-Bagley version from a few years back but it's still entertaining enough to deserve a closer look. Faerber's storytelling is straight-ahead, while Scott and Wong's art is slick, indeed. Grade: B+.

Retailers' grade: B

Retailer panelists reviewing August titles:

Peggy Bahls
Cosmic
Comics,
Helena, MT



S.A. Bennett
Dark Star
Books &
Comics, Yellow
Springs, OH

Cliff Biggers
Dr. No's
Comics,
Marietta, GA



Mike Keeney
Comic
Corner,
Huntsville, AL

Phil Mateer
All about
Books and
Comics,
Phoenix, AZ



The Monster Men

Dark Horse, 32 pages, color, \$2.95

Mateer: Gianni's finely detailed horror and fantasy work sometimes reminds me of Virgil Finlay; it would look perfect inside a '30s or '40s science-fiction pulp magazine. As a *Hellboy* feature, this series often suffered from Backup Story Syndrome: Its few pages each issue made it hard for readers to get into its narrative flow. At full length here, though, that problem is solved, and the result is an atmospheric, gloomy delight. (And, if you're still not convinced, there's that Mignola *Hellboy* backup story ...) Grade: A-.

Bennett: Appropriately enough, "pulpy" can be used as either a pejorative or a handy adjective, and heavens knows the comics genre as a whole owes an enormous debt to the pulp magazine. The debt is clear in *The Monster Men*. With liberal mixes of horror, "Oriental" fantasy, and hero genres, this manages to be both simultaneously highly referential and wholly original in execution. Simply amazing and altogether disturbing. Grade: A.

Biggers: Yes, this tale of monster fighters reads well — but it looks so phenomenally good that I'd have to recommend it for the art, even if the story wasn't good (which it is,

honest). I didn't think that Gianni could improve much from the work seen in his stunning debut a couple of years ago, but he has. His work here is reminiscent of Wrightson and Krenkel at their best. Grade: A.

Bahls: Those who are fans of *Hellboy* may be familiar with *Monster Men* as a backup story. Now they get to have a full-length story — and what a story!

Gianni's art is worth the price of the comic book alone, but the story is just as great. Unfortunately, the story is too short; I would love to go on to what happens next. Grade: A.

Keeney: The art is stunning and reminiscent of fine art etchings from the Victorian Age. The story is compelling, with a great twist ending. Unfortunately, the story takes for granted you've read previous installments and doesn't introduce the characters well or define terms or concepts clearly. I look forward to a trade paperback to more fully understand the subtleties of this dynamic story. Grade: B.

Panel's grade: A-

Gary Gianni brings his characters from the back of *Hellboy* to the front of this one-shot, which features a *Hellboy* back-up by Mike Mignola. While millionaire film mogul Larry St. George is ill with a Chinese bug, Benedict goes to Tibet to claim the skull of a necromancer.



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Dorian Cleavenger

(cover artist for Books of Lore and fantasy illustrator)

Gary Cohn

(Vladimira, also Amethyst and Blue Devil from DC)

Countess Vladimira

(gothic-horror personality)

Dave DeVries

(Books of Lore, also Marvel and DC painter)

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(Buzzboy)

Bryan Heyboer

(Digital Dragon and Books of Lore)

Scott Kolins

(Books of Lore, also Legion of Super-Heroes from DC)

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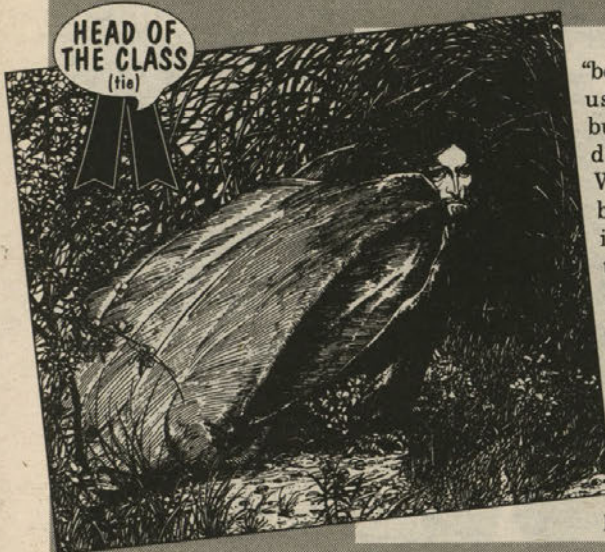
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Barry Windsor-Smith: Opus

Fantagraphics, hardcover, 176 pages, color, \$39.95; signed, \$59.95

HEAD OF THE CLASS
(tie)



Bennett: The term "body of work" is both over-used and over-wrought, but it's appropriate when discussing the work of Windsor-Smith. "Sketch books" by comic-book artists are common, but these autobiographical sketches, illuminated by sketches of the other sort, show the evolution of an artist. Not a comic-book penciller, an artist. Grade: A.

Keeney: The art in this volume is, as expected, breathtaking.

Having samples of art from the many projects and styles of Smith's career in one art book is truly awesome. Unfortunately, the commentary and observations on the art form and comic industry are less impressive, since his observations are somewhat elementary and his word choices and sentence structure are unnecessarily confusing. As just an art book, the grade is A+. With the verbose prose, the grade is B-.

Mateer: At \$39.95, this should be a nice book for fans who can afford it; 176 pages of full-color, well-produced Smith art is worth it, after all. What makes this unusual is the text; Smith is a good writer, but he does go on. Pages and pages of buildup about his "psychic ... and physically transcendent experiences" culminate in two episodes: One's a case of mistaken identity, and the other is the sort of low-level halluci-

nation that someone like Hunter S. Thompson would dismiss as unworthy of analysis. That's a disappointing payoff for all the work involved in getting to it. Ignore the text; look at the pretty pictures, instead. Grade: B (A for the art; C for the text).

Bahls: One word to describe this — superb! Windsor-Smith has always been a favorite of mine, and this look into his thoughts and art is long overdue. The recognizable "BWS" on the first page had me reaching for this immediately. Unlike many autobiographical works, this is written with style and humor.

On top of that, you have his great art adding to all the pages. I can hardly wait to see this in full color! Grade: A.

Retailers' grade: A-

KRAZY, THE MULTI-TALENTED LEAD GUITARIST, RECEIVED NO LESS THAN 50,000 MARRIAGE PROPOSALS DURING THIS TOUR (TOO BAD NONE OF HER SUITORS WERE OF HER OWN SPECIES).



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AND THE VIVACIOUS WOO WOO IS SURE THAT SUCCESS ON THEIR OWN HOME PLANET (EARTH) IS JUST AROUND THE BEND!



BUT JUST WHAT IS IT ABOUT YEAH! THAT DRIVES THESE OUTER SPACE FOLK SO WILD? WELL, WHY DON'T WE LET A FEW OF THEIR FANS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES? (ALL ANSWERS WERE TRANSLATED).



Yeah! #1

DC/Homage, 32 pages, color, \$2.95

HEAD OF THE CLASS
(tie)

Peter Bagge and Gilbert Hernandez join forces to tell the tale of an all-girl band, Woo Woo, Honey, and Krazy, that is the most popular group in the galaxy but can't get a booking on its home planet, Earth.

Bennett: Bagge and Hernandez working on all-ages, girl-skewing Homage comic book? It must be getting near the new millennium.

Here's hoping that readers, retailers, and the general public get hold of this wild, wacky, good-hearted (without being sappy) fantasy that's perfect for those just a bit too old for the Archie titles — and the perfect antidote for anyone who's sick of the static sameness of all too many American comics. Grade: B.

Biggers: Yeah, baby, yeah! This is a delightful comic book.

I suspect a lot of readers will be surprised to see something like this appearing under the Homage imprint, since it is produced by two of Fantagraphics' most impressive talents: Bagge and Hernandez. Fantagraphics fans, get ready to pay a visit to Homageland, because you're going to like this comic book every bit as much as anything either creator has done for Fantagraphics.

The issue is fast-paced, energetic, and entertaining — not only a great story for established fans, but a good comic book for female readers of all ages who are convinced that comics just aren't for them. Grade: A.

Keeney: Yeah! is quirky, weird, endearing, and fun.

The simple Hernandez art adds charm to the funny, subtle story by Pe-

ter Bagge. Yeah! is a bit of a departure from the usual harshness of these two creators.

In this industry, a comic book following the mainstream exploits of a wacky girl's band is still considered *avant garde* and alternative, while guys in tights leaping from buildings and beating up other guys in tights is considered mainstream. Go figure. Grade: A-.

Bahls: Another story that will appeal to young female readers. You put Bagge and Hernandez together and get great stuff.

This tale of a young female band going from a galaxy-hopping tour where they are the toast of the universe to obscurity on Earth is humorous and a fun story to read. Grade: B.

Mateer: Bagge and Hernandez reveal their ultimate career goals here: to create the coolest alternate-universe Archie comic book in existence.

Lots of people will compare this to *Josie and the Pussycats*, and they'll be right — but it's filtered through the imaginations of the guys who brought us *Hate, Love and Rockets*, and tons of other great stuff. In a month loaded with promising all-ages titles (*Forty Winks* and *Legacy* among them), this one is probably the best — and it's certainly the most fun. Grade: A.

Retailers' grade: A-

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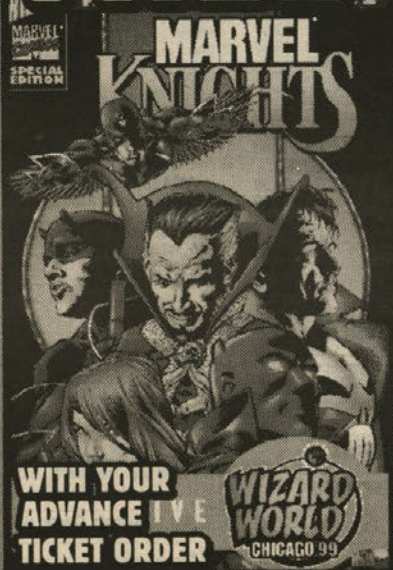


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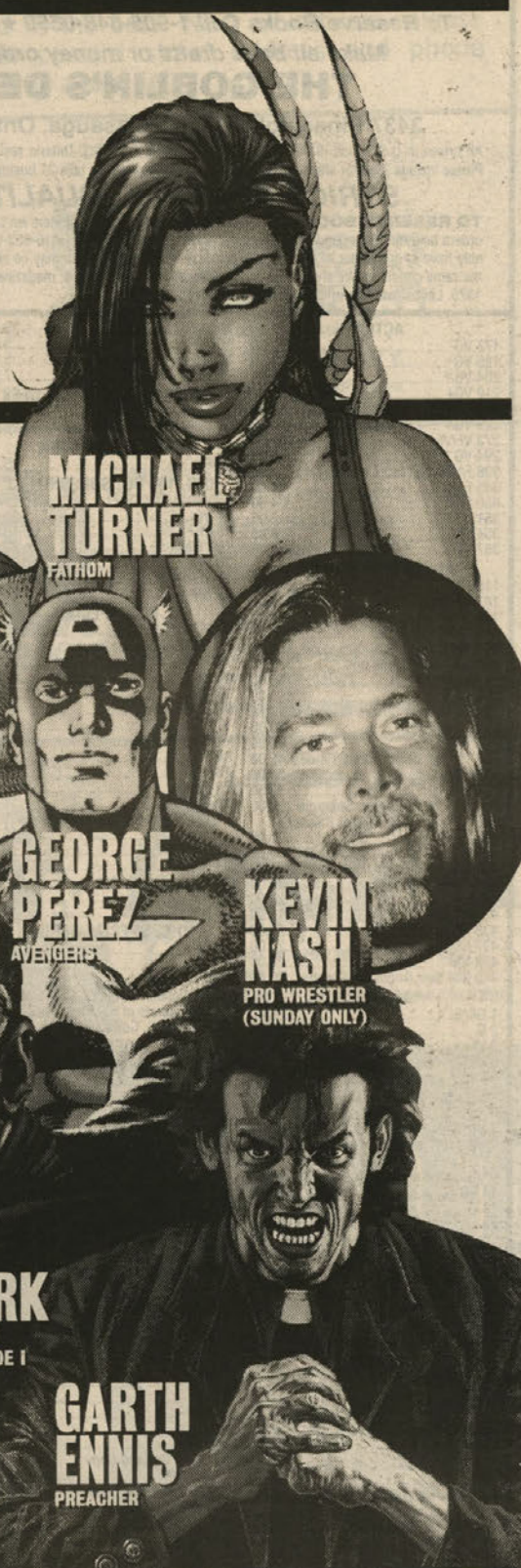
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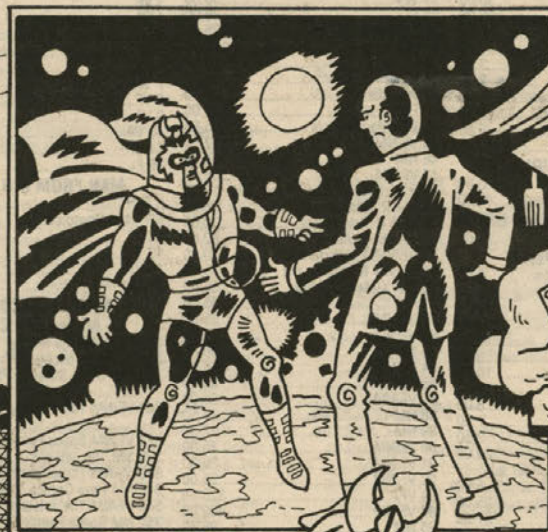


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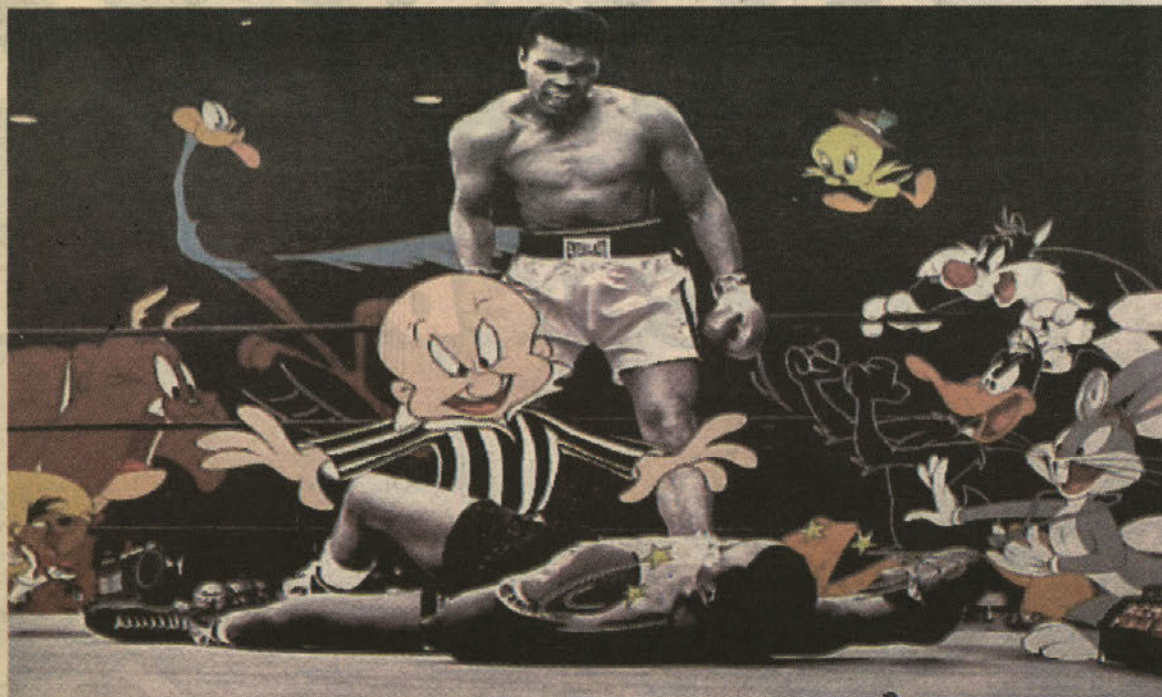
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KIRBY



WHILE IN NO WAY MATCHING THE SHEER DURATION OF HIS RUN ON THE FANTASTIC FOUR, NOR HAVING THE PERSONAL IMPACT HE INVESTED IN CAPTAIN AMERICA, SOME KEY KIRBY ELEMENTS CONTINUE TO ENDURE TO THIS VERY DAY IN THE ONCE LOW-SELLING BUT NOW THRIVING MUTANT ENTERPRISE. FOR, AS LONG AS THERE ARE CONSTANTS LIKE CYCLOPS' VISOR, MAGNETO'S HELMET, AND PROFESSOR X'S ROBBER-RESISTANT DOME REMAINING, YOU JUST HAVE TO STOP AND TIP YOUR HAT TO JACK, BECAUSE, YUP, WITHOUT HIM, THE UNCANNY ONES WOULDN'T BE WHERE THEY ARE TODAY--AND JUST IN CASE ANYBODY FORGOT THAT TRENC'HANT FACT, I THOUGHT I'D SHARE THESE REINTERPRETATIONS WITH YOU!

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ARKANSAS

Jul 10 AR, N. Little Rock. Comic Book, Toy & Collectibles Show, Best Western. 600 I-30 & 6th St., Exit 140 off I-30, SH: 10am-5pm, T: 35-6. Kevin Frazier, PH: 601-825-1699.

CALIFORNIA

Jul 2-4 CA, Fresno. Comic Book & Toy Fest, Manchester Ctr. Corner of Blackstone & Shields Ave., just off of Hwy. 41, SH: Fri. 10am-9pm, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-6pm, T: 20-8, F: \$75., A: free. Cool Stuff Shows, 2330 W. Monte Vista, Visalia, CA 93277. PH: 559-215-0134.

Jul 9-11 CA, San Francisco. ManaFest 99, Conference Ctr. 255 S. Airport Blvd., SH: Fri. 12noon-midnight, Sat. & Sun. 9am-midnight, F: \$35. three day pass. ManaFest Event, Hotline PH: 877-ManaFest toll free or FAX: 415-626-2762.

Jul 11 CA, Los Angeles. Comic Book & Science Fiction Convention, Shrine Auditorium Expo Ctr. 700 W. 32nd St., SH: 10am-5pm, A: \$5. Bruce Schwartz, 2319-A W. Olive Ave., Burbank, CA 91506. PH: 818-954-8432.

Jul 18 CA, San Francisco. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Cathedral Hill Hotel. 1101 Van Ness Ave. at Geary Blvd., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 50, F: \$50., A: \$2. Al or Damon Jang, 3145 Geary Blvd. #270, San Francisco, CA 94118. PH: 415-386-9036.

CONNECTICUT

Jul 10 CT, Meriden. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Masonic Temple. 112 E. Main St., SH: 9:30am-3pm, T: 30-8, F: \$25., A: \$9. under 12 free. Ernest Schaper, 10 McKee Ave., S. Meriden, CT 06451. PH: 203-634-0069.

Jul 25 CT, East Hartford. Comic Book Convention, Elks Hall. 148 Robert St. (Exit 58 off of I-84), SH: 11am-5pm, T: 35, F: \$45., A: \$99. The Bookie, Hal Kinney, 206 Burnside Ave., E. Hartford, CT 06108. PH: 860-289-1208.

FLORIDA

Jul 25 FL, Tampa. Comic Book, Toy & Anime Mega Show, Travel-

odge. 820 E. Busch Blvd. (at the intersection of Busch Blvd. & Nebraska, I-275, Exit 33), SH: 10am-5pm, T: 60, F: \$75., A: \$450. PH: 407-599-0905.

GEORGIA

Jul 1-4 GA, Atlanta. Dragon Con Annual Convention. Dragon Con, PO Box 47696, Atlanta, GA 30362.

HAWAII

Jul 23-25 HI, Honolulu. All Collectors Show 99, Blaisdell Exhibition Hall. 777 Ward Ave., SH: Fri. 4pm-9pm, Sat. 11am-9pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, A: \$3.50, \$2. ages 7-11. Ilene & Wayne Productions, Inc., Ilene Wong, PO Box 61704, Honolulu, HI 96839. PH: 808-941-9754.

ILLINOIS

Jul 5 IL, Orland Park. Comic Book, Sports, Toys, NASCAR & Beanie Show, Civic Ctr. La Grange Rd. (Rt. 45) at 147th St., SH: 9am-3pm, T: 85-6, F: \$30., A: \$1. John Leary, 9522 W. Shore Dr., Oak Lawn, IL 60453. PH: 708-423-1758.

Jul 10 IL, Summit. Comic Book, Card, Toy, Beanie & Coll. Show, American Legion Hall. 6050 S. Harlem Ave. (3 min. S. of I-55 Expy.), SH: 9am-3pm, A: \$2., under 12 free. Countryside Comic Faire, Paul Maiellaro, PO Box 2376, Bridgeview, IL 60455. PH: 708-430-8107.

Jul 16-18 IL, Rosemont. Wizard World Chicago ComicCon, Convention Ctr. SH: Fri. & Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm, F: \$20. for 1 day, \$40. for 3 days. Wizard Entertainment, Brenda Cook, 151 Wells Ave., Congers, NY 10920. PH: 914-268-2000.

Jul 17 IL, Orland Park. Comic Book, Sports, Toys, NASCAR & Beanie Show, Civic Ctr. La Grange Rd. (Rt. 45) at 147th St., SH: 9am-3pm, T: 85-6, F: \$30., A: \$1. John Leary, 9522 W. Shore Dr., Oak Lawn, IL 60453. PH: 708-423-1758.

Jul 25 IL, Orland Park. Comic Book, Sports, Toys, NASCAR & Beanie Show, Civic Ctr. La Grange Rd. (Rt. 45) at 147th St., SH: 9am-3pm, T: 85-6, F: \$30., A: \$1. John Leary, 9522 W. Shore Dr., Oak Lawn, IL 60453. PH: 708-423-1758.

INDIANA

Jul 11 IN, Indianapolis. Comic Book, Toy & Collectibles Show, Quality Inn East. 3525 N. Shadeland Ave., Exit off I-70 or I-465, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 6, F: \$45. for 1, \$40. ea. for 2 or more, A: \$2., under 12 free. Brian, PH: 513-522-1231.

Jul 18 IN, Indianapolis. Collectible Comic Book, Sports Card, Beanie & Racing Show, Holiday Inn East. 6990 E. 21st St., SH: 10am-3pm, T: 36, F: \$30. for 1, \$45. for 2, A: free. Mark Lopez,

PH: 317-894-1115.

KANSAS

Jul 25 KS, Overland Park. Comic Con One Day Wonder, Holiday Inn Mission. 7240 Shawnee Mission Pky., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 30, F: \$20., A: free. Homer Sager, 5021 Clark Dr., Roeland Park, KS 66205. PH: 913-432-9112.

KENTUCKY

Jul 18 KY, Lexington. Comic Book & Toy Show, Holiday Inn South. I-75, Exit 104, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 6, F: \$45. for 1, \$40. ea. for 2 or more, A: \$2., under 12 free. Brian Livingston, PH: 513-522-1231.

MASSACHUSETTS

Jul 23-25 MA, Boston. New England's Comic Book, Toy, Sci-Fi, Gaming & Fantasy Convention, Bayside Expo Ctr. 200 Mt. Vernon St. Infinite Visions, Box 904, S. Yarmouth, MA 02664. PH: 508-896-7402.

MICHIGAN

Jul 25 MI, Livonia. X-Trava Con Comic Book & Toy Show, Knights Of Columbus. 19801 Farmington Rd. (bet. 7 Mile & 8 Mile Rd.), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 55-8, F: \$35. in advance, \$40. day of show, A: \$2. Motor City Conventions, Michael Goldman, 19785 W. 12 Mile Rd. Ste. 231, Southfield, MI 48076. PH: 248-426-8059.

NEBRASKA

Jul 18 NE, Omaha. Monthly Comic Books, Coins, Ballcards, NASCAR & Automobile Collectibles Show, Holiday Inn. Ford Hall, I-80 & 72nd St., T: 100, F: \$30., A: free. Ed Bishop, 2016 E. 19th, Fremont, NE 68025. PH: 402-721-7364.

NEW JERSEY

Jul 9-11 NJ, Wildwood. Comic Book, Sports Card & Toys Show, Conv. Ctr. On the boardwalk at Burk Ave., SH: Fri. 5pm-10pm, Sat. 12noon-10pm, Sun. 10am-4pm, A: free. EMCEE Conventions, PO Box 151, Hightstown, NJ 08520. PH: 609-448-7585.

Jul 10-11 NJ, Ocean Township. Comic Book, Sports Card, Beanie Babies, Toys & Collectibles Show. Rts. 35 & 66, Pky. Exit 102 S. or 100A N. to Rt. 66, SH: Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 60-8, A: free. Collectors Showcase, Sandy Grecco, PO Box 189, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716. PH: 732-291-1632.

Jul 11 NJ, Elmwood Park. Comic Books, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, American Legion Post 147. 1 Legion Place (off Market St.), SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 50-6, A: \$1. Gary Sipos, 1

Garden Ct., N. Garfield, NJ 07026. PH: 973-340-2218 or 796-9717 day of show.

Jul 17-18 NJ, Newark. International Toy Mega Show, Sheraton Airport Hotel. 128 Frontage Rd., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 200. Steve Savino or Ken Laurence, 1020 Arlington Rd., New Milford, NJ 07646. PH: 201-261-8803 or 261-4982.

Jul 18 NJ, Garfield. Comic Books, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, Boys Club. 490 Midland Ave., SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 70, A: \$1. Gary Sipos, 1 Garden Ct., N. Garfield, NJ 07026. PH: 973-340-2218 or 779-9332 day of show.

Jul 25 NJ, Clifton. Comic Books, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, 802 Clifton Ave. (entrance on Colfax Ave.), SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 50-8, A: \$1. Gary Sipos, 1 Garden Ct., N. Garfield, NJ 07026. PH: 973-340-2218 or 779-9332 day of show.

Jul 25 NJ, Bordentown. Comic Book, Toys & Sports Card Show, Armory. Rt. 206 off Exit 7 of NJ Tpke., SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, A: \$2. EMCEE Conventions, PO Box 151, Hightstown, NJ 08520. PH: 609-448-7585.

Jul 30-Aug 1 NJ, Freehold. Triple Play Comic Book, Sports Card, Memorabilia & Collectible Toy Show, Raceway Mall. 3710 Rt. 9, SH: mail hrs., T: 100-8, F: \$190. for 1, \$360. for 2, \$500. for 3, A: free. Ferdinand Parascandolo, 482 Retford Ave., St. NY 10306. PH: 718-667-9588 or 967-9172.

NEW MEXICO

Jul 11 NM, Albuquerque. Collector Con, Marriott Hotel. 2101 Louisiana Blvd. NE, SH: 9am-3pm, T: 48, F: \$35., A: \$1.50. Henry Segovia, 9617 Menaul Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112. PH: 505-293-3065 day or 831-3253 eves.

NEW YORK

Jul 3 NY, Sayville-LI. Comic Book, Action Figures & Non-Sports Show, Atlas Mart Indoor Flea Market. 5750 Sunrise Hwy. & Broadway, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 30, A: free. Paul DeCarlo, PH: 516-289-7398.

Jul 3-4 NY, Shirley. Comic Book, Card, Toy & Action Figure Beanie Show, 20 Floyd Rd., SH: 10am-4pm, F: \$20. for 1 day, \$30. for 2 days, A: free. Joe Fabianski, PH: 516-276-1871 or 281-9672 day of show.

Jul 10-11 NY, Shirley. Comic Book, Card, Toy & Action Figure Beanie Show, 20 Floyd Rd., SH: 10am-4pm, F: \$20. for 1 day, \$30. for 2 days, A: free. Joe Fabianski, PH: 516-276-1871 or 281-9672 day of show.

Jul 16-18 NY, Nanuet. Triple Play Comic Book, Sports Card, Memorabilia, Collectible Toy & Beanie Baby Show, Nanuet Mall. 75 W. Rt. 59, SH: mail hrs., T: 75-8, F: \$165. for 1, \$320. for 2,

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Jul 17-18 NY, Shirley. Comic Book, Card, Toy & Action Figure Beanie Show. 20 Floyd Rd., SH: 10am-4pm, F: \$20. for 1 day, \$30. for 2 days, A: free. Joe Fabianski, PH: 516-276-1871 or 281-9672 day of show.

Jul 18 NY, Brooklyn. Comic Book, Sports Card & Beanie Babies Show. Golden Gate Inn. Knapp St. & Shore Pky., SH: 9am-4pm, T: 35-8, F: \$45., A: free. Mark Dillon, PH: 718-266-1625.

Jul 18 NY, Ozone Park. Comic Book, Sports Card, Coin & Beanie Baby Show & AUCTION, Jewish Ctr. 107-01 Crossbay Blvd., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 36, F: \$37.50 for 1, \$65. for 2, A: \$1. Joseph Carvana, 114-32 150 Ave., S. Ozone Park, NY 11420. PH: 718-845-7240 or 848-1795.

Jul 24-25 NY, Shirley. Comic Book, Card, Toy & Action Figure Beanie Show. 20 Floyd Rd., SH: 10am-4pm, F: \$20. for 1 day, \$30. for 2 days, A: free. Joe Fabianski, PH: 516-276-1871 or 281-9672 day of show.

NORTH CAROLINA

Jul 10-11 NC, Raleigh. 31st Toy Collectors Show, State Fairgrounds, 1025 Bluebird Rd., SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4:30pm, T: 285. Carolina Hobby Expo, PH: 704-786-8373.

PENNSYLVANIA

Jul 11 PA, Pittsburgh. Three Rivers Comic Con, Holiday Inn-Greentree. 401 Holiday Dr., I-279 to Exit 4 off Mansfield Ave., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 28-8, F: \$55., A: \$2., 6 & under free. Jeff Harper, 5220 Loma Linda NE, Canton, OH 44714. PH: 330-499-6056.

Jul 25 PA, Philadelphia. Comic Con, Stadium Holiday Inn. 10th St. & Packer Ave. (Exit 46 off I-76 or Exit 15 off I-95), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 48, F: \$65. for 1, \$120. for 2, A: \$3. Derek Woywood, 10 Chelsea Cir., Clementon, NJ 08021. PH: 609-782-0817.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Jul 17 SC, Columbia. Comic Book, Toys & Collectible Show, Jamil Temple. I-26 at St. Andrews. Exit 106A, SH: 9am-5pm, T: 125-8, F: \$40., A: \$3. Ken Bernard, 833 Silver Pl., Chapin, SC 29036. PH: 803-796-3536 or Mark Foy, PH: 803-345-1454.

TENNESSEE

Jul 11 TN, Memphis. Comic Book, Toy & Collectibles Show, Ramada Inn. 1471 E. Brooks Rd., Exit 5A off I-55, SH: 10am-5pm, T: 40-6, Kevin Frazier, PH: 601-825-1699.

TEXAS

Jul 10-11 TX, Plano. Sci-Fi Expo & Toy Show, Convention Center. 2000 E. Spring Creek Pky., T: 275. Ben Stevens, PO Box 941111, Plano, TX 75094. PH: 972-578-0213.

Jul 10-11 TX, Dallas. Big-D Collectible Show, Westin Park Central Hotel. Hwy. 635 & Coit Rd., SH: Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm, T: 280, A: \$6. per day. Don Maris, Box 200725, Arlington, TX 76006. PH: 817-261-8745.

Jul 24-25 TX, Houston. Collectors Show, Holiday Inn. 7787 Katy Fwy., I-10 W. at Antoine Exit, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 70, A: \$3., 12 & under free. Nostalgia Promotions, Andy Mingle, PH: 281-748-5154.

VIRGINIA

Jul 11 VA, Tysons Corner-McLean. Monthly Comic Book, Magic, Toy & Trading Card Show, Tysons Corner Westpark Hotel. 8401 Westpark Dr., take Exit 10 (Rt. 7 W.) off I-495 (Washington, DC area), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 90-6, F: \$65. for 1st, \$60. for 2nd,

\$55. ea. add'l., A: \$2., under 5 free. Capital Associates, Inc., Jeffrey Rocen, 7952 Arden Ct., Vienna, VA 22027. PH: 703-912-1993.

Jul 24 VA, Salem. 2nd Annual Vintage Comics & Collectibles Show, Civic Ctr. 1001 Boulevard, SH: 10am-5pm, T: 40-8, F: \$50. in advance, \$60. day of show, A: \$2., 12 & under free. Alum Ridge Industries, Roger Mannon, 623 Harris Hollow Rd. SW, Floyd, VA 24091. PH: 540-789-7056.

WASHINGTON

Jul 2-4 WA, Puyallup. Comic Book & Sports Card Coll. Show, South Hill Mall. 3500 S. Meridian, SH: Fri. & Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 10am-5pm, T: 55. Twin Oaks Sport Shows, 1242 State Ave., Ste. I-214, Marysville, WA 98270. PH: 360-653-5527.

Jul 9-11 WA, Kirkland. Comic Book & Sports Card Coll. Show, Totem Lake Mall. Exit 20B E. off I-405, SH: Fri. 10am-9pm, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 55. Twin Oaks Sport Shows, 1242 State Ave., Ste. I-214, Marysville, WA 98270. PH: 360-653-5527.

Jul 10-11 WA, Spokane. Comic Book & Sports Card Coll. Show, Franklin Park Mall. 5628 N. Division, SH: Sat. 10am-8pm, Sun. 11am-6pm, T: 40. Twin Oaks Sportshows, 1242 State Ave., Ste. I-214, Marysville, WA 98270. PH: 360-653-5527.

WEST VIRGINIA

Jul 9-11 WV, Clarksburg-Bridgeport. Celebrity Comic Book, Sports Card & Racing Collectibles Show, Meadowbrook Mall. Exit 121 off I-79, SH: Fri. & Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 12noon-6pm, T: 40-8, F: \$90. for 1, \$170. for 2, A: free. Badgley Promotions, PO Box 3528, Parkersburg, WV 26103. PH: 304-485-8345.

Jul 25 WV, Parkersburg-Marietta. Comic Con, Holiday Inn. I-77 at Exit 17 (Rt. 50), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 30-6, F: \$45. for 1, \$110. for 3, A: \$2., 6 & under free. Jeff Harper, 5220 Loma Linda NE, Canton, OH 44714. PH: 330-499-6056.

If a state is not listed in this issue's calendar, it is because we received no show listings for that state for this time period.

If you are planning to attend a show some distance from your home, we advise you to call the show's promoter for any last-minute changes and information.

Attention Show promoters: Please check your listings and send any additions, corrections, and future listings to: CBG Convention Calendar, Attn: Debbie Schellin, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990. You can also fax them to Debbie's attention at (715) 445-4087. Thank you.

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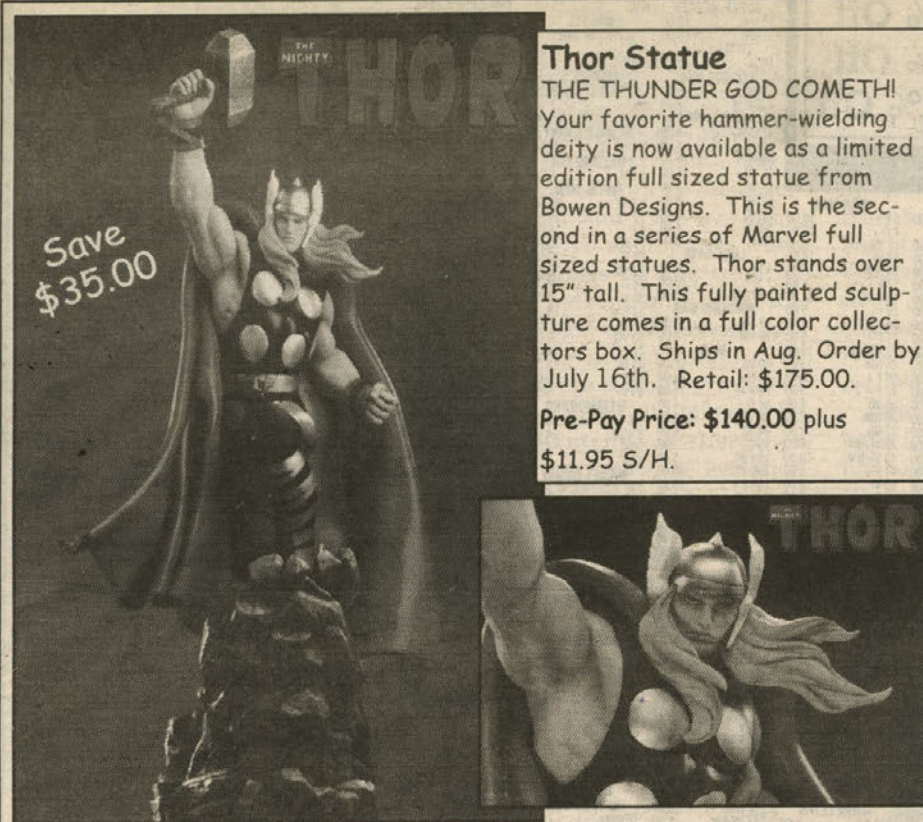
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GALACTICA

the new millennium



Galactica

1999 and beyond

By Matt Brady

It was 1978, and, if you had a television, you probably caught *Battlestar Galactica*. While some called it a cheap *Star Wars* knock-off and others called it great television, it made an impression on science-fiction fandom that would last for more than 20 years.

After a handful of false starts, *Battlestar Galactica* has returned to comics, thanks to Realm Press.

Realm's first *Galactica* series originally started in 1997 under the guidance of Chris Scalf, who provided painted art for the bulk of the six issues published. Business difficulties followed, and Realm was acquired by JMJ Media Group, which immediately put *Galactica* back on track. Taking up the creative reins this time are writer, editorial director, and long-time *Galactica* fan James Kuhoric and artist Robert Scott.

Kuhoric came on the series when Realm was under its previous owners and stayed on as creative director after the company switched hands. Despite the new owners, the new *Battlestar Galactica* series won't cut ties with the previous series.

"We're calling our new launch *Battlestar Galactica: Season III*, since there was only one real television season — and we're implying that the previous six issues from Realm were *Season II*," Kuhoric said. "*Season III* starts about a year after the show ended, with the crew of the *Galactica* still searching."

Realm's version of *Galactica* will be familiar to fans of the original *Battlestar Galactica*: The ragtag fleet of humans is still in outer space, searching for "Earth," a planet which has an Eden-like place in their mythology and is home to the legendary 13th colony that possesses technology to defeat the Cylons, mechanical warriors created by a reptilian species.

"*Season III* picks up with the fleet having had no Cylon contact for about six months," Kuhoric said. "That, of course, leads to a political split that we're used to seeing: The council of elders wants to stop fleeing. Their thought process is: As soon as they don't see something, it's no longer there. They want to find the first planet that will work and start a new world. In this case, it's a planet named Domia."

There is an opposing voice of caution. "Commander Adama sees the threat that is still there, and that's where things really take off. I can promise that we'll have a healthy dose of Cylons soon. We'll also see Apollo, Starbuck, a

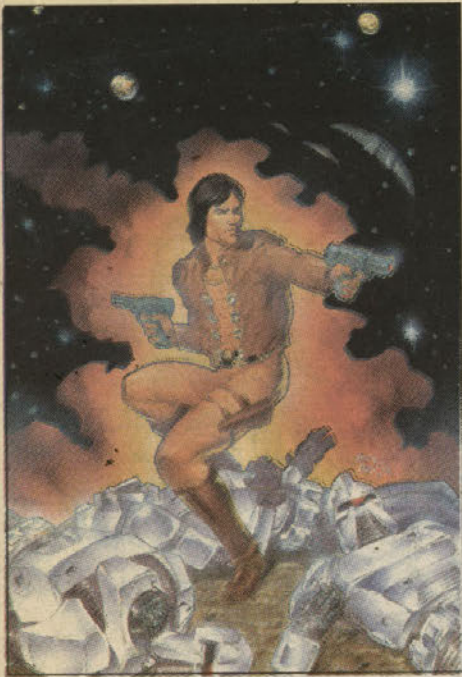
bunch of new alien races, as well as everyone's favorite bad guy, Baltar, who plays a big role in the coming storyline, as well. By #3, people will be shocked by what's happened but they'll also see that we're not out to produce stories of no consequence."

Season III also gives Kuhoric the chance to explore and ask questions about *Galactica* that he said he's had in mind since he was a kid. "We're really going to get into the personal relationships with the characters and visit some of the characters that only had minor screen time, like Adama's daughter, Athena, Sheba, and Colonel Tigh," Kuhoric said. "There were so many characters in the show, but people only saw them for a few minutes each week. The series will give readers a chance to learn more about all of these characters and just look around the ships a little more. Every week, I wanted to know what was down the hallway Apollo just came from. Now I can find out."

Joining Kuhoric as regular artist on *Season III* is newcomer Robert Scott. While Scott said he was originally a *Star Wars* fan, being a creator on an under-utilized property such as *Galactica* has made him change his mind. "*Galactica* has a lot of unexplored territory, which adds a certain element of fun," Scott said. "Something like *Star Wars* is so huge and has so many blanks filled in. Working on something like *Galactica* is unusual in that we can put our own ideas in without having to worry too much about stepping on what has already been done or worrying about messing up future plans. It really allows us a lot of freedom."

In addition to *Season III*, Realm is also launching a *Galactica* anthology title in September. *Galactica: The New Millennium* will serve as the testing ground for new *Galactica* stories by creators both well known and looking to be well known. "Jim Shooter really liked the character of Starbuck, so he's coming on board to tell a Starbuck story," Kuhoric said.

"We've also got Art Holcomb, Scott Braden, and Barry Lyga writing stories with art by the likes of Dan Parsons, Michael Malbrough, Matt Busch, Billy Tucci, and Robert Scott. The series will give readers a chance to see *Galactica* stories from some great creators and it's also going to be a jump-on place for readers who might have been turned off by some of the previous incarnations and a chance for them to



really enjoy what is a classic television icon."

The deeper picture. According to Kuhoric, working with Universal (which holds the rights to the series), on the two comics series is a very easy process. While the studio still approves the stories and art for the series, Kuhoric said Universal has given Realm nearly free rein to explore and develop *Galactica* as it sees fit — to a point.

"Obviously we can't do anything extremely radical — although I may try to," Kuhoric said. "While we're going to put in a lot of suspense, I don't see Starbuck or Apollo dying any time soon. That said, however, we do have latitude to throw surprises your way. Don't think that Starbuck and Apollo are going to walk out smelling like roses all the time."

While he said that telling compelling, adventure-filled science-fiction stories is the main thrust behind the series, plans call for *Season III* and *The New Millennium* to explore several deeper concepts that the televised version of *Galactica* only touched on.

Stories are also planned that will explore the overall context of *Galactica* — such as the religious and mythical overtones including similarities to the Israelites' search for the Promised Land, Noah's Ark, and the Lost Tribe. It also explores the metaphor of a highly advanced, technological race looking to find a piece of its own mythology. While it may have been perceived by some fans in the '80s as a knock-off television series, Kuhoric said he hoped that in his hands *Galactica* will be much more.

"*Galactica* had a lot of religious and mythological themes in it — that much can't be denied," Kuhoric said. "Those aspects, along with the theme of the plight of the underdog and refugees, really attract people to the property. Everybody can relate to overwhelming odds, but *Galactica* always comes through with a strong theme of hope for



the future and making something of life after everything is destroyed. Just by watching the news every night, you see that theme played out again and again. It's something that's deep inside of us and everyone can relate to. It's not quite a 'never say die' attitude, but one of 'we will survive no matter the cost.'"

While Kuhoric and his writers plan to explore the world and characters of *Battlestar Galactica* in ways the television series was never able to approach, they also have another plan: to settle the official *Galactica* timeline, much as has been done for *Star Trek* and *Star Wars*.

The new order of events in *Galactica*'s history will also act to resolve a period of history that many serious *Galactica* fans refuse to even acknowledge — the less-than-inspired *Galactica* 1980 series. "There was a series after the original *Battlestar Galactica*?" Kuhoric joked. "We've taken a stance, and in our timeline that says what we are keeping in our continuity — and *Galactica* 1980 won't be in it. *Galactica* 1980 had exactly one good episode, and that was 'The Return of Starbuck.' Universal made a TV movie out of that and another regular episode and interwove it into regular continuity, so we're going to use that. But as for the rest of the series, with Dr. Zee the miracle baby and all the rest — it was someone's bad dream."

The end? While the overall premise of *Battlestar Galactica*, that of a wandering band of humans trying to find a planet that may or may not exist, appears to be finite (eventually, they'll find the planet), Kuhoric said he feels that the stories the comics version of *Galactica* can tell are limitless.

"Even if they find their home, it's a long, long trip until they get there," Kuhoric said. "Even when they reach the planet, whether it's Earth or some other world, it could be something completely opposite of what they expected it to be, or the natives of the planet may have no

idea who the people from *Galactica* are and have no way to defeat the Cylons, as they've been led to believe. There are so many adventures out there. *Star Trek* was supposed to be a five-year mission, but it's gone on and on in different stories and ideas and crews."

Kuhoric promised that Realm's *Galactica* won't just give the property a light touch as some comic-book adaptations do.

The stories of *Season III*, *The New Millennium*, and beyond will each read like a movie, according to Kuhoric. "We're really not pulling any punches with *Battlestar Galactica*," he said. "We have some unbelievable things planned, and it's safe to say that this *Battlestar Galactica* isn't going to be the same old thing that's been tried before. It is going to be a new and exciting future for the ragtag band of fugitives looking for their home." □



Realm sets *Battlestar Galactica* back on course

By Scott Braden and Joel Meadows

"There are those who believe that life here began out there. Far across the universe with tribes of humans who may have been the forefathers of the Egyptians or the Toltecs or the Mayans. Some believe that there may yet be brothers of man who even now fight to survive somewhere beyond the heavens."

It was a Sunday night in 1978 when those words, melding with visions of forgotten stars and galaxies long lost, were first uttered to a national audience. A weird hybrid of Erich von Däniken's *Chariots of the Gods*, the book of *Exodus*, and a little bit of the Battle of Britain thrown in for good measure, *Battlestar Galactica* was an unusual epic for its time and, like *Star Wars*, did the groundwork for what was to come.

Taking its cue from the literary canon, it used writers like Homer and Socrates as

its inspiration to hold a mirror up to a fictionalized social commentary of modern culture, with the central triumvirate of Apollo, Starbuck, and Adama at its core.

That being said, it was only natural that after the success of Marvel's *Star Wars* comic book, it would follow up with a comics adaptation of *Battlestar Galactica* in 1979, bringing such creators as Walter Simonson, Roger McKenzie, and Ernie Colono to its pages.

Despite an original TV run of only one season, the series' impact was widespread and lasting. Rob Liefeld's Maximum Press brought new attention to the series in 1995 and created a groundswell of new licensed products. While some fans were not receptive to Liefeld's 20-years-later take on the story, others were very happy with it.

Maximum's incarnation was followed in 1997 by an initial manifestation from



Realm Press, a small-press publisher whose *Galactica* comics were warmly received by fans before scheduling difficulties did in their series. The potential of *Battlestar Galactica* was easy to see — but, perhaps, harder to make real.

Today, that's changed. Under different management, Realm is readying two new series: *Battlestar Galactica: Season III* (a new ongoing title by writer James Kuhoric and artist Robert Scott that picks up where the original TV series left off) and *Battlestar Galactica: The New Millennium* (an anthology that will include stories by Jim Shooter, screenwriter Art Holcomb, artist Dan Parsons, and writer Barry Lyga).

A happy accident. Kuhoric said that his chance to add to the *Galactica* mythos reads like a happy accident: "As a writer, I had been pitching material to Dark Horse, Image, and several other companies, and it was thanks to this that I met Chris Scalf," he said. "Ironically, Chris had been working with Richard Hatch, who played Apollo, on a project called *The Drakkon Wars* while at the same time actively pursuing the *Battlestar Galactica* license. So, when the opportunity arose to help plot the course for *Galactica*, I jumped at it!"

Realizing the potential for the license, Kuhoric immediately looked for investors to take part in this new adventure. What he found, though, were partners.

Realm Publisher Mark Haynes said, "When Jim approached me to come on

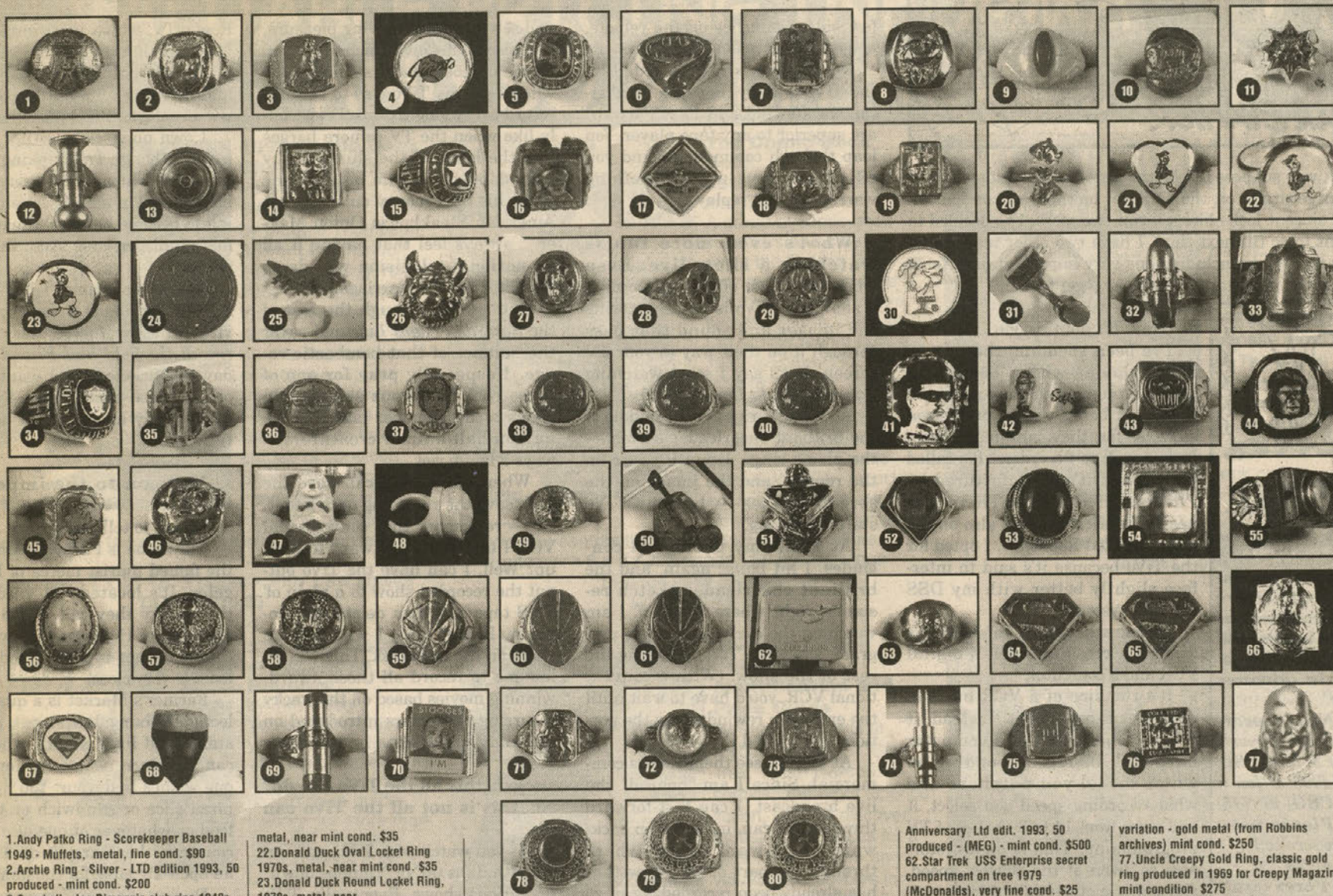
board as the new publisher, I reviewed the company's history and found that it was clear the previous management team — who had had no publication or comic-book experience — were in over their heads on the technical issues. Realm was at an unusual crossroads as a small-press publisher. This company had a hot science-fiction licensed property from the '70s, being published at a time when '70s nostalgia is at the forefront of popular culture. In addition, this comic book from an independent publisher was experiencing an upturn in sales during a depressed small-press market. Looking at that fact alone, it wasn't long before I signed on."

Realm Marketing Director Kevin Topham said, "With our comics, we want to tell stories that we as fans want to read. We want to deliver each issue on time to retailers and fans who support us. We want to expand the readership of comics by bringing in top-notch talent — like Jae Lee, John Stinsman, Jim Shooter, Billy Tucci — who are as eager to work with us on *Galactica* as we are to work with them."

Shooter was just one of the creators who said they were excited, in turn, about working on the *Galactica* mythos. "I was thrilled to be asked to write a Starbuck story for Realm," he said. "I've always loved *Battlestar Galactica*. I was editor in chief of Marvel when the series first came out on TV and was instrumental in Marvel's licensing of it for comics. This is going to be fun."



Battlestar Galactica: The New Millennium focuses on the secondary characters of the series with its anthology format.



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POV

POINT OF VIEW

BY Mark EVANIER



This week was supposed to be the next and final installment of my discourse/tirade on the "Marvel method" of comic-book writing. But since it looks like it'll run two more, I've decided to pre-empt that topic till next time. I have two other matters I'd like to cover this week, including one very important one. You'll know which is the important one when we get to it.



[Editor's Note: Items for this feature, which lists appearances in comics stores and lecture halls — not conventions — of writers, artists, and editors should be submitted as far in advance as possible.]

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June 23

George Pérez (artist of *Avengers*, *Crisis on Infinite Earths*, and *New Teen Titans*), **Marv Wolfman** (writer of *Crisis on Infinite Earths*, *New Teen Titans*, and *Curse of Dracula*) at Continental Comics, 17032 Devonshire St., Northridge, California 91325, from 4:30 to 8 p.m.

June 26

Peter Laird (*Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*), **Jim Lawson** (*Planet Racers*), and **Dan Berger** (*Gutwallow*) at Words & Pictures Museum, 140 Main St., Northampton, Massachusetts 01060, from 2 to 5 p.m. for a book signing and 7 to 9 p.m. for an exhibit reception.

July 9

Ed McGinness and **Joe Kelly** (*Deadpool*) at Words & Pictures Museum, 140 Main St., Northampton, Massachusetts 01060, beginning at 7 p.m. for a lecture.

(Hint: It's not this one ...)

I've been spending the last 48 hours playing with a new toy: a breakthrough in video equipment that's not being widely publicized since, so far, they can't make them fast enough to fill orders. It's called a TiVo and it's manufactured by Phillips Electronics. There is a nearly identical product also on the market called ReplayTV. I opted for the TiVo because it's said to interface slightly better with my DSS satellite system.

OK, so what's a TiVo? Well, it's kind of a cross between a digital VCR and a computer.

It's the size of a VCR but you don't put tapes into it. Instead, it has the equivalent of a computer hard disk inside. Depending on which model you purchase and what recording speed you select, it will store from 14 to 30 hours of TV programming. This is digital storage, so, even at the slowest speed, you get a picture only microscopically less than the original transmission.

The TiVo connects between your TV and whatever source gives you your broadcast signal — satellite receiver, cable TV box, roof antenna, etc. You also connect it to your phone line and you'll probably want to hook a conventional VCR into it, as well.

Your TiVo is always on. In the wee, small hours of the a.m., it uses the phone line to dial TiVo Central. From there, it downloads an updated program listing and merges it into an internal directory.

When you turn on your TV, the TiVo gives you a list of everything that's scheduled to be broadcast in the next two weeks. You use the remote control and mark whatever you want it to record — either individual episodes or what they call "season passes." For instance, you can tell your TiVo to always grab *The Young and the Restless*, and it will do so — even if it's on at a different time one day.

You also get a list of everything that's been recorded and which is waiting to be viewed. With just a

few button-punches on the remote, you can select a show to watch.

Watching a show recorded on the TiVo is a joy. Because it's digital, the Rewind and Fast Forward are superior to any tape player. You leap through commercials and you effortlessly back up, if something warrants a fast replay.

What's even more fun is watching a show live. Even when you're not officially recording a show, the TiVo is quietly storing the images and sound that pass through it on their way to your TV screen. Let's say I start watching *Saturday Night Live* at 11:30.

At 11:40 — right in the middle of the brilliant cheerleader sketch — the phone rings. I punch *pause* on the remote, and the image on the screen freezes — but the TiVo starts recording.

At 11:50, my phone call concludes. I hit *pause* again, and the brilliant cheerleader sketch resumes, right where I left off. I am watching the early part of the program, while the TiVo is logging the rest of the show. (With a conventional VCR, you'd have to wait until the end, then rewind to see the portions you missed.)

At 11:55, I see them start a commercial. Since I am "behind" the live broadcast, I can fast-forward through it. I can, in fact, leap backward or forward — anywhere through the part of the show that has already been recorded. I can go back to re-watch the hilarious Ladies' Man sketch that opened the show.

At 12, I watch one of those knee-slapping bits about the women who have the cooking show on NPR. Then the musical act comes on, so I hit a button that leaps me ahead to "real-time" viewing.

At 12:15, I howl so much at a joke in *Weekend Update* that I miss the next line. I hit a special button on the remote that replays the previous eight seconds. That's right: *This is an instant replay of a live TV broadcast.*

At 12:25, I'm watching the uproarious Mary Catherine Gallagher skit, and, as she does the side-splitting crash into the scenery, I push a button and send the image into slow-motion, so I can savor every witty moment — or in case her underwear shows. That's right: *This is slow-motion viewing of a live TV broadcast.*

At 12:35, right in the middle of the clever Roxbury Guys sketch, I decide I can take no more of this hilarious comedy. I have TiVo record the rest and I go to the TiVo menu

and select, for my viewing pleasure, an episode of *Cops* which it recorded the day before. (First thing I did when I got my TiVo was to set it to record every single *Cops*. I especially like when the TV camera barges into the home of the shirtless guy who slapped his wife because she spent his beer money on the Great American Steakhouse Onion Maker. I always feel that having it all on national television will do so much to heal the marriage.)

Later, I zip through the rest of the *Saturday Night Live* and savor the balance of that bombastic revue. I especially pray for one of those real humorous sketches in which a cast member plays a half-human/half-animal creature. Always a laugh riot.

When I'm done, I can have the TiVo save the recording or delete it. Or — remember that conventional VCR I told you you'd want to hook up? Well, I can have the TiVo output the recorded show to a plain ol' VHS tape and then delete the program. Either way, I will free up space on the hard disk. This will allow me to record all those award-winning movies based on the wacky recurring characters introduced on *Saturday Night Live*.

So is this all the TiVo can do? No, this is not all the TiVo can do.

As you watch your TiVo, you can vote "thumbs up" or "thumbs down" on various shows. Eventually, TiVo develops a profile of what programs you like and it can begin recording your favorite shows without being specifically directed. Other features and capabilities are planned.

The bottom line here is a whole new way to approach TV viewing. In theory, the invention of the Video Cassette Recorder should have allowed us all to watch only what we want and only when we wanted to watch it. I think I once believed I would never again miss the good shows or watch anything when it was not of absolute convenience to me.

In practice, though, programming a VCR is too involved a ritual for most of us. And even when it isn't, we never get around to looking up all the shows that interest us and taping them for leisurely viewing. The TiVo makes that appallingly simple.

How much, as Mr. Popeil would ask, is one of these wonderful machines? Well, your basic TiVo will run you around \$500, and you also need the TiVo phone download service, which is another \$100 a year — or \$200 for lifetime access. The

ReplayTV, which is a similar product with slightly different features, is slightly more expensive. (Details and ordering at www.tivo.com and www.replaytv.com, respectively.)

I own no stock in either company — although I'm thinking of buying some. This is a neat machine to have, and I'm sure they're only going to become handier, cheaper and more indispensable. And, therefore, neater.

In the meantime, I have to get busy. I'm trying to write a computer virus which will force every TiVo to record *Garfield* and *Friends* every day on Nickelodeon. I want to buy one of these contraptions for every room in my house, so I'll need the residuals ...

Now, on to the important topic.

I want to tell you a story ...

The scene is Farmer's Market — the famed tourist mecca of Los Angeles. It's located but yards from the facility they call, "CBS Television City in Hollywood" — which, of course, is not in Hollywood but at least is very close.

Farmer's Market is a quaint collection of bungalow stores, produce stalls, and little stands where one can buy darn near anything edible one wishes to devour. You buy your pizza slice or sandwich or Chinese food or whatever at one of umpteen counters, then carry it on a tray to an open-air table for consumption.

During the summer or on weekends, the place is full of families and tourists and Japanese tour groups. But this was a winter weekday, not long before Christmas, and the crowd was mostly older folks, dawdling over coffee and Danish. For most of them, it's a good place to get a doughnut or a taco, to sit and read the paper.

For me, it's a good place to get out of the house and grab something to eat. I arrived, headed for my favorite barbecue stand, and, *en*

(Continues on Page 60)



Rhino Records recently released *Mel Tormé at the Movies*, a collection of his film songs.

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Point of View

From
Page
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route, noticed that Mel Tormé was seated at one of the tables.

Mel Tormé. My favorite singer. Just sitting there, sipping a cup of coffee, munching on an English muffin, reading the *New York Times*. Mel Tormé.

I had never met Mel Tormé. Alas, I still haven't and now I never will. He looked like he was engrossed in the paper that day so I didn't stop and say, "Excuse me, I just wanted to tell you how much I've enjoyed all your records." I wish I had.

Instead, I continued over to the BBQ place, got myself a chicken sandwich, and settled down at a table to consume it. I was about halfway through when four Christmas carolers strolled by, singing "Let It Snow," a cappella.

They were young adults with strong, fine voices and they were all clad in splendid Victorian garb. The Market had hired them (I assume) to stroll about and sing for the diners — a little touch of the holidays.

"Let It Snow" concluded not far from me to polite applause from all within earshot. I waved the leader of the chorale over and directed his attention to Mr. Tormé, seated about 20 yards from me.

"That's Mel Tormé down there. Do you know who he is?"

The singer was about 25, so it didn't horrify me that he said, "No."

I asked, "Do you know 'The Christmas Song?'"

Again, a "No."

I said, "That's the one that starts, 'Chestnuts roasting on an open fire ...'"

"Oh, yes," the caroler chirped. "Is that what it's called? 'The Christmas Song?'"

"That's the name," I explained. "And that man wrote it."

The singer thanked me, returned to his group for a brief huddle — and then they strolled down toward Mel Tormé. I dumped the rest of my sandwich and followed, a few steps behind. As they reached their quarry, they began singing, "Chestnuts roasting on an open fire ..." directly to him.

A big smile formed on Mel Tormé's face — and it wasn't the only one around. Most of those sitting at nearby tables knew who he was, and many seemed aware of the significance of singing that song to him. For those who didn't, there was a sudden flurry of whispers: "That's Mel Tormé ... he wrote that ..."

As the choir reached the last chorus or two of the song, Mel got to his feet and made a little gesture that meant, "Let me sing one chorus solo." The carolers — all still apparently unaware they were in the presence of one of the world's great singers — looked a bit uncomfortable. I'd bet at least a couple were thinking, "Oh, no ... the little fat guy wants to sing."

But they stopped, and the little fat guy

started to sing — and, of course, out came this beautiful, melodic, perfectly-on-pitch voice. The look on the face of the singer I'd briefed was amazed at first — then properly impressed.

On Mr. Tormé's signal, they all joined in on the final lines: "Although it's been said, many times, many ways ... Merry Christmas to you ..." Big smiles all around.

And not just from them. I looked and at all the tables surrounding the impromptu performance, I saw huge grins of delight — which segued, as the song ended, into a huge burst of applause. The whole tune only lasted about two minutes, but I doubt anyone who was there will ever forget it.

I have witnessed a number of thrilling "show business" moments — those incidents, few and far between, where all the little hairs on your epidermis snap to attention and tingle with joy. Usually, these occur on a screen or stage. I hadn't expected to experience one next to a falafel stand — but I did.

Tormé thanked the harmonizers for the serenade and one of the women said, "You really wrote that?"

He nodded. "A wonderful songwriter named Bob Wells and I wrote that ... and, get this: We did it on the hottest day of the year in July. It was a way to cool down."

Then the gent I'd briefed said, "You know, you're not a bad singer." He actually said that to Mel Tormé.

Mel chuckled. He realized that these four young folks hadn't the velvet-foggiest

notion who he was, above and beyond the fact that he'd worked on that classic carol. "Well," he said. "I've actually made a few records in my day ..."

"Really?" the other man asked. "How many?"

Tormé smiled and said, "Ninety."

I probably own about half of them on vinyl and/or CD. For some reason, they sound better on vinyl. (My favorite was the album he made with Buddy Rich. Go ahead. Find me a better parlay of singer and drummer. I'll wait.)

Today, as I'm reading obits, I'm reminded of that moment. And I'm impressed to remember that Mel Tormé was also an accomplished author and actor. Mostly, though, I'm recalling that pre-Christmas afternoon.

I love people who do something so well that you can't conceive of it being done better. Doesn't even have to be something important: singing, dancing, plate-spinning, mooning your neighbor's cat, whatever. There is a certain beauty to doing almost anything to perfection.

No recording exists of that chorus that Mel Tormé sang for the other diners at Farmer's Market, but, if you never believe another word I write, trust me on this. It was perfect. Absolutely perfect.

Mark Evanier gets his mail at PMB 303, 363 S. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90036-3124 (about a block and a half from Farmer's Market) and on the 'net at me@evanier.com.

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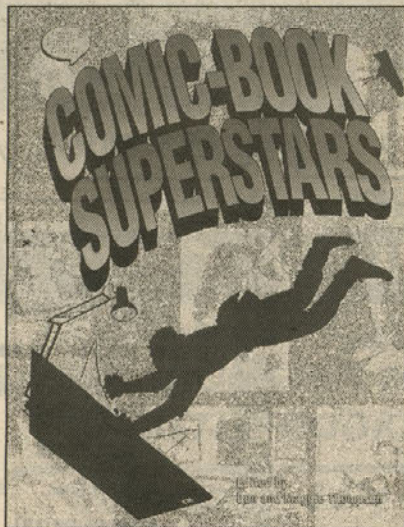
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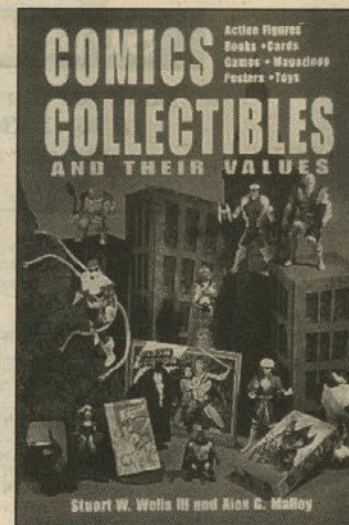
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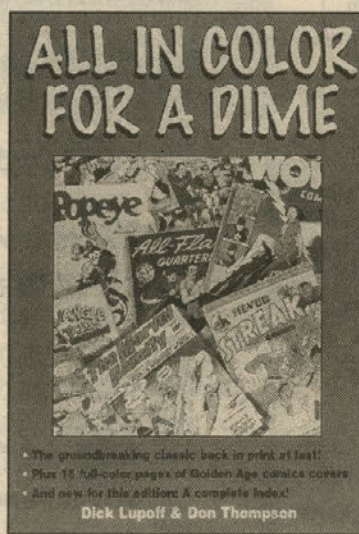
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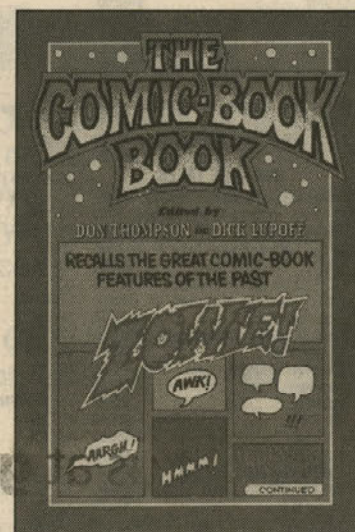
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1. Action 330, 348, 368, 369, 378, 389, 392, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.
2. Action 427-436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.
3. Action 438-442, 443-448, 449-454, 455-460, 461-466, 467-472, 473-478, 479-484, 485-490, 491-496, 497-502, 503-508, 509-514, 515-520, 521-526, 527-532, 533-538, 539-544, 545-550, 551-556, 557-562, 563-568, 569-574, 575-580, 581-586, 587-592, 593-598, 599-604, 605-610, 611-616, 617-622, 623-628, 629-634, 635-640, 641-646, 647-652, 653-658, 659-664, 665-670, 671-676, 677-682, 683-688, 689-694, 695-700, 701-706, 707-712, 713-718, 719-724, 725-730, 731-736, 737-742, 743-748, 749-754, 755-760, 761-766, 767-772, 773-778, 779-784, 785-790, 791-796, 797-802, 803-808, 809-814, 815-820, 821-826, 827-832, 833-838, 839-844, 845-850, 851-856, 857-862, 863-868, 869-874, 875-880, 881-886, 887-892, 893-898, 899-904, 905-910, 911-916, 917-922, 923-928, 929-934, 935-940, 941-946, 947-952, 953-958, 959-964, 965-970, 971-976, 977-982, 983-988, 989-994, 995-1000.
4. Action 438-442, 443-448, 449-454, 455-460, 461-466, 467-472, 473-478, 479-484, 485-490, 491-496, 497-502, 503-508, 509-514, 515-520, 521-526, 527-532, 533-538, 539-544, 545-550, 551-556, 557-562, 563-568, 569-574, 575-580, 581-586, 587-592, 593-598, 599-604, 605-610, 611-616, 617-622, 623-628, 629-634, 635-640, 641-646, 647-652, 653-658, 659-664, 665-670, 671-676, 677-682, 683-688, 689-694, 695-700, 701-706, 707-712, 713-718, 719-724, 725-730, 731-736, 737-742, 743-748, 749-754, 755-760, 761-766, 767-772, 773-778, 779-784, 785-790, 791-796, 797-802, 803-808, 809-814, 815-820, 821-826, 827-832, 833-838, 839-844, 845-850, 851-856, 857-862, 863-868, 869-874, 875-880, 881-886, 887-892, 893-898, 899-904, 905-910, 911-916, 917-922, 923-928, 929-934, 935-940, 941-946, 947-952, 953-958, 959-964, 965-970, 971-976, 977-982, 983-988, 989-994, 995-1000.
5. Action 438-442, 443-448, 449-454, 455-460, 461-466, 467-472, 473-478, 479-484, 485-490, 491-496, 497-502, 503-508, 509-514, 515-520, 521-526, 527-532, 533-538, 539-544, 545-550, 551-556, 557-562, 563-568, 569-574, 575-580, 581-586, 587-592, 593-598, 599-604, 605-610, 611-616, 617-622, 623-628, 629-634, 635-640, 641-646, 647-652, 653-658, 659-664, 665-670, 671-676, 677-682, 683-688, 689-694, 695-700, 701-706, 707-712, 713-718, 719-724, 725-730, 731-736, 737-742, 743-748, 749-754, 755-760, 761-766, 767-772, 773-778, 779-784, 785-790, 791-796, 797-802, 803-808, 809-814, 815-820, 821-826, 827-832, 833-838, 839-844, 845-850, 851-856, 857-862, 863-868, 869-874, 875-880, 881-886, 887-892, 893-898, 899-904, 905-910, 911-916, 917-922, 923-928, 929-934, 935-940, 941-946, 947-952, 953-958, 959-964, 965-970, 971-976, 977-982, 983-988, 989-994, 995-1000.
6. Action 438-442, 443-448, 449-454, 455-460, 461-466, 467-472, 473-478, 479-484, 485-490, 491-496, 497-502, 503-508, 509-514, 515-520, 521-526, 527-532, 533-538, 539-544, 545-550, 551-556, 557-562, 563-568, 569-574, 575-580, 581-586, 587-592, 593-598, 599-604, 605-610, 611-616, 617-622, 623-628, 629-634, 635-640, 641-646, 647-652, 653-658, 659-664, 665-670, 671-676, 677-682, 683-688, 689-694, 695-700, 701-706, 707-712, 713-718, 719-724, 725-730, 731-736, 737-742, 743-748, 749-754, 755-760, 761-766, 767-772, 773-778, 779-784, 785-790, 791-796, 797-802, 803-808, 809-814, 815-820, 821-826, 827-832, 833-838, 839-844, 845-850, 851-856, 857-862, 863-868, 869-874, 875-880, 881-886, 887-892, 893-898, 899-904, 905-910, 911-916, 917-922, 923-928, 929-934, 935-940, 941-946, 947-952, 953-958, 959-964, 965-970, 971-976, 977-982, 983-988, 989-994, 995-1000.
7. Action 438-442, 443-448, 449-454, 455-460, 461-466, 467-472, 473-478, 479-484, 485-490, 491-496, 497-502, 503-508, 509-514, 515-520, 521-526, 527-532, 533-538, 539-544, 545-550, 551-556, 557-562, 563-568, 569-574, 575-580, 581-586, 587-592, 593-598, 599-604, 605-610, 611-616, 617-622, 623-628, 629-634, 635-640, 641-646, 647-652, 653-658, 659-664, 665-670, 671-676, 677-682, 683-688, 689-694, 695-700, 701-706, 707-712, 713-718, 719-724, 725-730, 731-736, 737-742, 743-748, 749-754, 755-760, 761-766, 767-772, 773-778, 779-784, 785-790, 791-796, 797-802, 803-808, 809-814, 815-820, 821-826, 827-832, 833-838, 839-844, 845-850, 851-856, 857-862, 863-868, 869-874, 875-880, 881-886, 887-892, 893-898, 899-904, 905-910, 911-916, 917-922, 923-928, 929-934, 935-940, 941-946, 947-952, 953-958, 959-964, 965-970, 971-976, 977-982, 983-988, 989-994, 995-1000.
8. Action 438-442, 443-448, 449-454, 455-460, 461-466, 467-472, 473-478, 479-484, 485-490, 491-496, 497-502, 503-508, 509-514, 515-520, 521-526, 527-532, 533-538, 539-544, 545-550, 551-556, 557-562, 563-568, 569-574, 575-580, 581-586, 587-592, 593-598, 599-604, 605-610, 611-616, 617-622, 623-628, 629-634, 635-640, 641-646, 647-652, 653-658, 659-664, 665-670, 671-676, 677-682, 683-688, 689-694, 695-700, 701-706, 707-712, 713-718, 719-724, 725-730, 731-736, 737-742, 743-748, 749-754, 755-760, 761-766, 767-772, 773-778, 779-784, 785-790, 791-796, 797-802, 803-808, 809-814, 815-820, 821-826, 827-832, 833-838, 839-844, 845-850, 851-856, 857-862, 863-868, 869-874, 875-880, 881-886, 887-892, 893-898, 899-904, 905-910, 911-916, 917-922, 923-928, 929-934, 935-940, 941-946, 947-952, 953-958, 959-964, 965-970, 971-976, 977-982, 983-988, 989-994, 995-1000.
9. Action 438-442, 443-448, 449-454, 455-460, 461-466, 467-472, 473-478, 479-484, 485-490, 491-496, 497-502, 503-508, 509-514, 515-520, 521-526, 527-532, 533-538, 539-544, 545-550, 551-556, 557-562, 563-568, 569-574, 575-580, 581-586, 587-592, 593-598, 599-604, 605-610, 611-616, 617-622, 623-628, 629-634, 635-640, 641-646, 647-652, 653-658, 659-664, 665-670, 671-676, 677-682, 683-688, 689-694, 695-700, 701-706, 707-712, 713-718, 719-724, 725-730, 731-736, 737-742, 743-748, 749-754, 755-760, 761-766, 767-772, 773-778, 779-784, 785-790, 791-796, 797-802, 803-808, 809-814, 815-820, 821-826, 827-832, 833-838, 839-844, 845-850, 851-856, 857-862, 863-868, 869-874, 875-880, 881-886, 887-892, 893-898, 899-904, 905-910, 911-916, 917-922, 923-928, 929-934, 935-940

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SUN
JUL 4

Dragon*Con in Atlanta, Ga. Final day. See Calendar Notes.

Independence Day

Born on this date:

Rick J. Bryant (1952)
Chris Yambar (1961)
Dan Nakrosis (1963)
Robert Conte (1970)

MON
JUL 5

Born on this date:

Floyd "Bill" Yates (1921)
Shel Dorf (1933)

TUES
JUL 6

Born on this date:

Eric Fein
Katherine Collins (1947)
Tony Franco (1949) 50 years ago
John Lindley Byrne (1950)
Christy Marx (1951)
Joe Zabel (1953)
Chuck Fiala (1955)
Stan Timmons (1956)
Louis Paradis (1959) 40 years ago

WED
JUL 7

CBG #1340 ships — featuring an interview with horror novelist Anne Rice about the comics adaptation of her *Tale of the Body Thief*.

Born on this date:

Lon Roberts (1947)
Rich Markow (1949) 50 years ago
E. Larry Dobias (1950)

THURS
JUL 8

Born on this date:

Irwin Hasen (1918)
Mort Castle (1946)
Mickey Allen Clausen (1955)
Stan Woch (1959) 40 years ago
Whilce Portacio (1963)
Brian LeBlanc (1971)

FRI
JUL 9

Born on this date:

Virginia Romita
Craig Anderson
Terry Kavanagh
Tony Di Preta (1921)
Murphy Anderson (1926)
Joe Delbeato (1956)
Kurt Mausert (1957)

SAT
JUL 10

Born on this date:

Tom Mason
Joe Shuster (1914) 85 years ago
Bob Larkin (1949) 50 years ago
Gerard Jones (1957)
Sandra Chang (1964) 35 years ago

Publishers

To see your comics listed here, please supply the exact shipping date for each title as soon as possible, preferably at least one month ahead of time. Send the information to: Maggie Thompson, CBG Calendar, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990. The same goes for any other announcements, additions, and corrections.

CBG Calendar Notes

Shows listed are multiple-day, non-mall-show events with the primary focus on comic books. Further information about these and other shows, as well as creator appearances, can be found each week in the **CBG** features *What*, *Where*, and *When* and *Now Appearing*.

• **Dragon*Con**, July 1-4 at the Atlanta Apparel Mart and Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Atlanta, Ga. Guests include Bob Burden, Peter David, Paul Dini, Will Eisner, George Pérez, Dave Stevens, and Billy Tucci. Admission: \$60/four days; \$25/day for

Thursday-Saturday; \$20/Sunday. Info: (770) 909-0115.

Continuing This Week

• **Cartoon Art Museum**, 814 Mission St., San Francisco, CA. Call for updates on current exhibits: (415) CAR-TOON.

• **International Museum of Cartoon Art**, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton, FL 33432. Call for updates on current exhibits: (561) 391-2200. **Current exhibit:** *Tarzan from Foster to Disney*, through Sept. 19. Tarzan art by Hogarth, Foster, Manning, and other talents who have worked on *Tarzan* strips and comic books.

• **Krazy Kat Comes Home: The Cartoon Art of George Herriman**, an exhibit of comic-strip art by

George Herriman, including watercolor illustrations, Sunday pages, and storyboards, will be on display through Aug. 29 at the Sedona Arts Center, Hwy 89A and Art Barn Rd., Sedona, AZ.

• **Marvelmania**, an exhibit of original art for Marvel comics of the '60s and '70s, will run through the summer at American Dream Gallery, 72 Walcot St., Bath, United Kingdom. Featured artists include Jack Kirby, Dick Ayers, Don Heck, John Romita, Gene Colan, Gil Kane, Marie Severin, Johnny Craig, and John Buscema. Info: 01225 424881.

• **Words & Pictures Museum**, 140 Main St., Northampton, MA. Info: (413) 586-8545. **Current exhibit:** *Spotlight on Planet Racers* through July 16. An exhibit of pen-and-ink drawings by Peter Laird and Jim Lawson from their *Planet Racers* series.

New comics scheduled to ship this week

The following information is taken from publisher and distributor solicitations and updates and is as accurate as possible at press time. Check with your local retailer to find out what day new comics go on the shelves. Comics that are delayed or rescheduled will be tracked in future **CBG** Calendars.

Note: Ⓢ indicates a rescheduled comic book that appeared in a previous **CBG** Calendar.

Antarctic Press

Deadforce #3 (of 3), \$2.99

Archie Comics Publications

Archie Double Digest #110, \$2.99

Betty & Veronica Double Digest #82, \$2.99

Betty & Veronica Summer Fun Special #6, \$2.29

Cheryl Blossom #25, \$1.79

Jughead with Archie Digest #151, \$1.99

Knuckles #28, \$1.79

Dark Horse

Aliens vs. Predator Annual #1, \$4.95

Dylan Dog #5 (of 6), \$4.95

Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan: The Savage

Heart #4 (of 4), \$2.95

Oh My Goddess! The Fourth Goddess #3 (of 8), \$2.95

Star Wars: Return of the Jedi Manga #1 (of 4), \$9.95

DC Comics

Adventures of Superman #570, \$1.99

Anarky #5, \$2.50

Ⓢ *Batman: The Book of Shadows*, \$5.95 (Apr. 25-May 1)

Batman: Gotham Adventures #16, \$1.99

Batman: Legends of the Dark Knight #121, \$1.99

Birds of Prey #9, \$1.99

Books of Magic: Girl in the Box TPB, \$14.95

Crimson #11, \$2.50

Cruel and Unusual #4 (of 4), \$2.95

Ⓢ *Darkchylde Summer Swimsuit Spectacular* #1, \$3.95 (May 30-Jun 5)

Finals #1 (of 4), \$2.95

Green Lantern Secret Files #2, \$4.95

JLA Annual #3, \$2.95

Legends of the DC Universe #20, \$1.99

Looney Tunes #56, \$1.99

Ⓢ *Manhunter: The Special Ed.*, \$9.95 (Jun. 20-26)

Martian Manhunter #10, \$1.99

100 Bullets #2, \$2.50

Preacher #53, \$2.50

Starman #57, \$2.50

Superman Adventures #35, \$1.99

Tom Strong #3, \$2.95

Top Ten #1, \$3.50

Young Justice #12, \$2.50

Fireman Press

Ⓢ *Gear* #6 (of 6), \$2.95 (Apr.)

Image Comics

Ⓢ *Aria* #4, \$2.50 (spec. ed., \$6.95) (Apr.)

Ⓢ *Bulletproof Monk* #3 (of 3), \$2.95 (Jan.)

Ⓢ *Darkness/Batman*, \$5.95 (Apr.)

Ⓢ *Kabuki* #8, \$2.95 (Apr.)

Ⓢ *Stone Vol. 2* #1, \$2.50 (spec. ed.,

\$6.95) (Feb.)

Ⓢ *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* #22, \$2.95 (Mar.)

Ⓢ *Tsunami Girl* #2, \$2.95 (Mar.)

Marvel Comics

Cable #71, \$1.99

Cable Second Genesis, \$3.99

Contest of Champions II #1 (of 5), \$2.50

Contest of Champions TPB, \$17.95

Deathlok #1, \$1.99

Fantastic Four #21, \$1.99

Spider-Man: Chapter 1 #11 (of 12), \$2.50

Spider-Woman #3, \$1.99

Thor #15, \$1.99

Uncanny X-Men #372, \$1.99

Oni Press

Geisha TPB, \$9.95

Penny Farthing Press

Victorian #5, \$2.95

Warp Graphics

Elfquest Readers Collection Vol. 14A: Mindcoil, \$11.95

Shipping notes and updates

• **Confirmed shipping:** We have received confirmation that the following titles have shipped and should be available in stores. This reflects shipping information received through June 18.

Abstract: *Strangers in Paradise Vol. III* #24, \$2.75 (Jun.)

AC: *Femforce Special: Rayda: The Cyberian Connection* #3 (of 3), \$3.95 (May)

Golden-Age Men of Mystery Collection #4, \$19.95 (Jun.)

Amaze Ink/Slave Labor: *Gloom Cookie* #1, \$2.95 (Jun.)

Antarctic: *Ninja High School* #69, \$2.99 (Jun.)

Anthill: *A-Bomb* #1, \$2.99 (Jun.)

Archie: *Archie Digest* #165, \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

Betty & Veronica #139, \$1.79 (Jun. 13-19)

Sonic the Hedgehog #74, \$1.79 (Jun. 13-19)

Blatant: *Danger Grrrl* #1, \$2.95 (two nude eds., \$9.95) (Mar.)

Phathom #1, \$2.95 (two nude eds., \$9.95) (Mar.)

Caliber: *Legendlore: Wrath of the Dragon Giant Size Special*, \$2.95 (Apr.)

Chaos: *Purgatori: Goddess Rising* #1 (of 4), \$2.95 (Jun.)

Undertaker #4 (two covers), \$2.95 (Jun.)

Claypool: *Elvira* #74, \$2.50 (Jun.)

Corsair: *Dork Tower* #4, \$2.95 (May)

Dark Horse: *Dark Horse Presents* #144, \$2.95 (Jun. 13-19)

Disney's Tarzan #1 (of 2), \$2.95 (Jun. 13-19)

Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan: The Jewels of Opar, \$10.95 (Jun. 13-19)

Gunsmith Cats: Bean Bandit #6 (of 9), \$2.95 (Jun. 13-19)

Heart of Empire: Legacy of Luther Arkwright #3 (of 9), \$3.50 (Jun 6-12)

Madman Boogaloo TPB, \$8.95 (Jun. 13-19)

Martin Mystery #4 (of 6), \$4.95 (Jun. 13-19)

David G. Brown: *Steps to a Drug Free Life* #1, \$2 (Jun.)

Tales from the Kids #2, \$2.50 (Jun.)

DC: *A Bizarro* #2 (of 4), \$2.50 (Jun 6-12)

Aquaman #58, \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

Astro City Family Album (hardcover), \$29.95 (Jun. 13-19)

Batman #568, \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

Batman & Superman: World's Finest #5 (of 10), \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

Batman Beyond #6 (of 6), \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

Cartoon Network Presents #24 (final issue), \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

DC One Million 80-Page Giant #1,000,000, \$4.95 (Jun 6-12)

Dreaming #39, \$2.50 (Jun. 13-19)

Fanboy #6 (of 6), \$2.50 (Jun. 13-19)

Gen13 #42, \$2.50 (Jun. 13-19)

Giantkiller #1 (of 6), \$2.50 (Jun. 13-19)

Giantkiller A to Z: A Field Guide to Big Monsters, \$2.50 (Jun. 13-19)

Happydale: Devils in the Desert #1 (of 2), \$6.95 (Jun. 13-19)

JSA Secret Files #1, \$4.95 (Jun. 13-19)

Legends of the DC Universe #19, \$1.99 (Jun 6-12)

Planetary #4, \$2.50 (May 23-29)

Resurrection Man #27, \$2.50 (Jun 6-12)

Scene of the Crime #4 (of 4), \$2.50 (Jun. 13-19)

Superboy #65, \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

Superman: The Dark Side, \$12.95 (Jun. 13-19)

Superman: The Man of Steel #91, \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

Titans #6, \$2.50 (Jun. 13-19)

Egmont Fleetway: *2000 A.D.* #1144, #1145, \$3.25 (May)

Eh: *Full Metal Femme Magazine* #9 (three covers), \$5.95 (Mar.)

Fantagraphics: *Bustline Combat* #1, \$2.95 (May)

Original Bondage Fairies #7, \$3.50 (May)

Sex-Philes #5, \$3.95 (May)

Silky Whip Extreme #2, \$3.50 (Jun.)

Gallant: *Ant Farm* #2, \$2.50 (Apr.)

Gun Dog: *Astronauts in Trouble: Live from the Moon* #4 (of 5), \$2.95 (Jun.)

Hamster: *Eye Special Edition* #1, \$2.95 (Jun.)

Harris: *Vampirella: World's End* #3 (of 3) (two covers), \$2.95 (May)

Image: *Evil & Malice* #1, \$3.50 (Jun.)

Solar Lord #4, \$2.50 (Jun.)

Spawn Annual #1, \$4.95 (May)

Witchblade #32, \$2.50 (May)

Limelight: *Zaibatsu Tears Vol. 2* #1, \$2.95 (May)

Marvel: *Avengers Forever* #8 (of 12), \$2.99 (May 9-15)

A-Next #11, \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

Captain America #20, \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

Hulk #5, \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

Peter Parker: Spider-Man #8, \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

Spider-Man: The Manga #31, \$2.99 (Feb. 21-27)

Thunderbolts #29, \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

X-Men #91, \$1.99 (Jun. 13-19)

X-Men: The Manga #26, \$2.99 (Feb. 14-20)

Mixx: *Harlem Beat Pocket Mixx Vol. 1*, \$9.95 (May)

Sailor Moon #9, \$2.95 (Jun.)

Oni: *Jenny Finn* #1 (of 4), \$2.95 (May 30-Jun 5)

Shanda Fantasy Arts: *Extinctioners Vol. 2* #1, \$2.95 (Jun.)

Sick Mind: *Sheba* Vol. 2 #6, \$2.95 (May)

Six Handed: *Faans* #4, \$2.95 (Jun.)

Three Finger Prints: *Three Geeks* #11, \$2.50 (Jun.)

Viz: *Animerica Extra Vol. 2* #7, \$4.95 (Jun. 13-19)

Dance till Tomorrow Vol. 2, \$15.95 (Jun. 13-19)

Dragonball Part Two #4 (of 15), \$2.95 (Jun. 13-19)

Maison Ikkoku Part 9 #3 (of 10), \$3.25 (Jun. 13-19)

New comics scheduled to ship in July

These are comics scheduled to ship during the month of July that, to the best of our knowledge, have not yet had specific release dates announced. Be aware that comics can take two or three days to reach retailers once they are shipped, so comics that are shipped at the end of the month may not appear in your local store until early the following month.

A Silent Comics

Arsenic Lullaby (Jul 99), \$2.50

Aardvark-Vanaheim

Cerebus #244, \$2.25

Abaculus

Psyence Fiction #3, \$2.95

ABC Studios

Bad Apples: High Expectations #1 (of 3), \$3 (spec. ed., \$8)

Double Impact 1999 Summer Bikini Special, \$3 (nude ed., \$8)

Double Impact 2069 #1, \$3 (two spec eds., \$5; nude ed., \$10)

Jazz the Series #1 (two covers), \$3

Poison Red #1, \$3 (nude ed., \$8)

Abstract Studios

Strangers in Paradise Vol. III #25, \$2.75

AC Comics

Best of the West #5, \$5.95

Golden Age Men of Mystery #16, \$6.95

Acclaim Comics

Shadowman Vol. 3 #1, \$3.95

Turok/Shadowman, \$3.95

ACG

Cop Called Tracy #7, \$2.95

Dick Tracy: Crimebuster #6, \$2.95

Hillbilly Comics #1, \$2.95

Original Brenda Starr #1, \$2.95

Weird #1, \$2.95

Action Press

Iron Wings #2, \$2.50

Adhesive Comics

Robot Love #1, \$2.95

Peanutbutter & Jeremy, \$2.95

Amaze Ink/Slave Labor

Lenore #6, \$2.95

Lenore TPB, \$11.95

Patty Cake & Friends #15, \$2.95

Skeleton Key Vol. 2 #4 (of 4), \$2.95

Stray Cats #4, \$2.95

Wyrd: The Reluctant Warrior #1 (of 6), \$2.95

Amazing Aaron Productions

Sparky and Tim, \$5.95

Anson Jew

Saturday Nite #2, \$2.95

Antarctic Press

Fifth Force: Hawk and Animal #2, \$2.50

Gold Digger Vol. 2 #1, \$2.50

Mangazine #1, \$8.99

Ninja High School Version 2 #1, \$2.50

Warrior Nun Areal Vol. 3 #1, \$2.50

Warrior Nun Black & White #21, \$2.50

World War II: 1946 #1, \$2.50

Arcane Comics

Prophecy of the Soul Sorcerer #3 (of 4), \$2.95

Arrow Comics Group

Dr. Goyle Special #1, \$2.95

Miss Chevious: The Armageddon Project #1 (of 4), \$2.95

Spank the Monkey #2, \$2.95

War of the Worlds: Memphis Front #3 (of 5), \$2.95

Avatar Press

Dreamwalker: Summer Rain #1, \$3

Faust: Book of M #1 (of 3), \$3.95

Goon #3, \$3

Pandora/Razor #1, \$3.50 (nude ed., \$6)

Pandora: Devil's Advocate #2 (of 3), \$3.50 (nude ed., \$6)

Threshold #18 (three covers), \$4.95 (nude ed., \$6)

Awesome Entertainment

Avengelyne Swimsuit Ed. 99, \$2.99

Coven Collected Ed. #1, \$5.95

Coven/Re:Gex #2 (of 2), \$2.50

Kaboom Vol. 2 #2, \$2.50

Lionheart #1, \$2.99

Bare Bones Studios

Garou: The Lone Wolf #1, \$2

Big Baby Comics

Hero on a Stick #1, \$2.95

Black Swan Press

Great Guns #1, \$2.95

Blue Corn Comics

Peace Party #1, \$2.95

Brainstorm Comics

Vamperotica Magazine #11 (reg. & nude covers), \$5.95

Vamperotica: Divide & Conquer #2, \$3 (nude ed., \$4)

Broken Halos

Tim Vigil's Dark Utopia Vol. 5, \$3.95

Caliber

Legends of Camelot: The Enchanted Lady, \$2.95

Saint Germaine: The Man in the Iron Mask, \$2.95

Sherlock Holmes Reader #3, \$3.95

Cartoon Books

Bone Vol. 6: Old Man's Cave (hardcover), \$23.95

Chaos! Comics

Evil Ernie Depraved #2 (of 3), \$2.95

Insane Clown Posse: The Amazing Jeckel Brothers, \$2.95

Lady Death: The Rapture #3 (of 4), \$2.95

Purgatori Goddess Rising #2 (of 4), \$2.95

Undertaker #5 (two covers), \$2.95

Chibi-Pop Manga

Chibi-Pop Manga Vol. 2 #1,

\$3.95

Claypool Comics

Elvira #75, \$2.50

Soulsearchers #37, \$2.50

Corsair Publishing

Dork Tower #5, \$2.95

CPM Manga

Call Me Princess #3, \$2.95

Chirality Book Three TPB, \$15.95

Dark Angel #3, \$2.95

Geobreeders #5, \$2.95

Lodoss War: The Grey Witch #9, \$2.95

Lodoss War: The Lady of Pharis #4, \$2.95

Martian Successor Nadesico #2, \$2.95

Midnight Panther Special: Breaking up Is Hard to Do, \$2.95

Cross Plains Comics

Robert E. Howard's Wolf-shead, \$6.95

Crucial Comics

Rat Bastard #6, \$1.95

Dancing Elephant Press

Kane Book 4: Thirty Ninth, \$19.95

Dee Vee Press

Dee Vee #12, \$2.95

Duality Press

Vigil: Daddy's Little Girl, \$2.95

Eddie Campbell Comics

Eddie Campbell's Bacchus #45, \$2.95

Egmont Fleetway

2000 A.D. #1151-1154, \$3.25

Classic 2000 A.D. Special Ed., \$7.95

Judge Dredd Magazine #56, \$6.95

Exhibit A Press

Wolff & Byrd: Counselors of the Macabre #23, \$2.50

Fantagraphics Books

Acme Novelty Library #13, \$10.95

Bradley's #3 (of 6), \$2.95

Evil Eye #4, \$2.95

Nimrod #3, \$2.95

R. Crumb Sketchbook Vol. 7, \$19.95 (hardcover, \$39.95)

Felix Comics

Felix Black & White #7, \$2.25

Five Star Comics

Morgan Stone #2, \$2.95

Frank Frazetta Fantasy Illustrated

Frank Frazetta Fantasy Illustrated #8, \$5.99

Full Bleed Studios

Pitt Crew #4, \$2.50

Games Workshop Publishing

Warhammer Monthly #17, \$2.95

Warhammer Monthly #18: Redeemer Special, \$2.95

Gratuitous Bunny Comix

Petra Etcetera #1, \$2.95

Gun Dog Comics

Astronauts in Trouble: Live from the Moon #5 (of 5), \$2.95

Gunner #5, \$2.95

Hammer and Anvil Press

Portrait of a Young Man as a Cartoonist, \$19.95

Harris Comics

Cyberfrog Amphibionix Ashcan, \$6

Pantha #2/Vampirella #17 (two covers), \$2.95

Vampirella 3000 A.D. Manga Ashcan, \$7.95

Helikon Comics

Galaxion & Amy Unbound Flip Book #1, \$2.75

Illustration Studio

Betty Page: The 50s Rage Annual #1 Revised Ed., \$3.25

Don Paresi Treasury, \$9.95

Image Comics

Age of Bronze Special #1, \$2.95

Age of Heroes Special #2, \$6.95

Alley Cat #1, \$2.50

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Big Bang Comics #26, \$2.95

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Cy-Gor #1, \$2.50

Deadlands: One Shot, \$6.95

Deity: Revelations #2, \$2.95

Exposure #1, \$2.50

Forever Amber #1 (of 4), \$2.95

Kabuki #9, \$2.95

Kabuki Classics #7, \$3.25

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Megaton Man: Bombshell #1, \$2.95

More than Mortal: Otherworlds #1, \$2.95

Nash Preview Ed. (two covers), \$2.50

Neon Cyber #1, \$2.50

Savage Dragon #64, \$2.50

Savage Dragon: Possessed (hardcover), \$89.95

Solar Lord #5, \$2.50

Spawn #88, \$1.95

Spawn: The Dark Ages #5, \$2.50

Spawn: The Undead #2, \$1.95

Tellos #3, \$2.50

Ironcat

Futaba-Kun Change Vol. 3 #1, \$2.95

Hyper Dolls Vol. 2 #6, \$2.95

New Vampire Miyu Vol. 4 #3, \$2.95

Ironhorse Comics

Didymous: The Night and Day Worlds #2 (of 12), \$2.50

l-Box Publishing

Thieves & Kings #28, \$2.50

Kenzer & Company

Knights of the Dinner Table #33, \$2.95

Lethargic Comics International

Lethargic Lad #11, \$2.95

London Night Studios

Beyond Bad Girls #1, \$3.95 (spec. ed., \$5.95)

Razor's Edge #1 (two reg. & one nude cover), \$4.95 (nude ed., \$6)

Switch B.L.A.Z.E. Manga

#0, \$3.50 (nude ed., \$6)

Metaphrog

Strange Weather Lately Vol. 2, \$9.95

Mixx Entertainment

Gundam: Blue Destiny Mixx Manga Vol. 1, \$12.95

Sailor Moon #10, \$2.95

Sailor Moon Pocket Mixx Vol. 4, \$9.95

Mprints Publishing

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NBM

Mercenary: Giants, \$10.95

New England Comics

Tick's Big Summer Annual #1, \$3.50

Tick: Heroes of the City #4, \$3.50

October Comics

Y's Guys #1, \$2.95

Pan Entertainment

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Peregrine Arts & Entertainment

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Digital Dragon #4, \$2.95

Q Comics

Varick: Chronicles of the Dark Prince #1, \$1.95

Radio Comix

Furlough #79, \$2.95

Hit the Beach 1999, \$3.95

Morning Glory #6, \$2.95

Re-Visionary Press

Rock 'n' Roll: A Cartoon History Vol. 1: The Sixties TPB (two covers), \$14.95

Realm Press

Battlestar Galactica Season 3 #2, \$2.99 (spec. ed., \$4.99)

Robot Publishing

Binibus Barnabus #1, \$2

Pater Contrarius #1, \$2

Saber Cat Comics

Adventures of Brower and Sequoia #2, \$2.95

Schism Comics

Nasti: Monster Hunter #4, \$2.75

Scorpion Productions

Diabolik Vol. 1 #1, \$5.95

COMIC SHOP DIRECTORY

The following is a listing of comic shops across the country, arranged by state. Be sure to mention that you saw it in CBG!

Retailers listed in bold sell Comics Buyer's Guide in their stores. For information on how you can sell Comics Buyer's Guide in your store contact your Comics Distributor or our Bulk Sales Department at 715-445-2214.

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This section features listings for retail comics stores around the world. Traveling comics collectors of all types search for new stores to dig through on their vacations, business trips, etc. Advertise your establishment here, including approximately ten words of miscellaneous description, for only \$3.50 an issue. You can buy this space in increments of 26 or 52 issues, for \$91.00 or \$182.00 respectively. Send in your store name, address, phone number, and approximately ten words of description, along with your payment. If you stock Comics Buyer's Guide we'll put your listing in boldface type.

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Name: _____

Contact person: (This will not appear in the listing) _____

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ FAX: _____ Do you carry Comics Buyer's Guide in your store? _____

Description: _____

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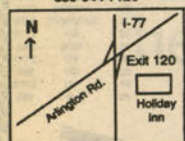
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C88 Pied Piper of Hamelin and Pass
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Hazel: cartoons from Saturday evening
Post by Ted Key (Bantam Books #1404)
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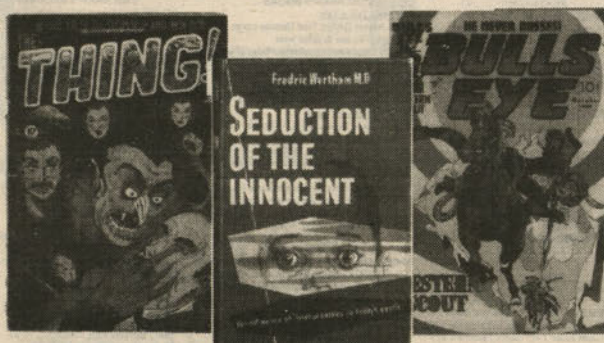


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By Maggie Thompson
There are couple of non-comics to consider this week — and one outstanding mini-series.

• Andrews McMeel

has published a sampler of outstanding comic art from colleges around the nation. Herewith, a sample of its grand prize winner, Stephen Emond, but the *Strip Search* (1999, b&w, ISBN 0-8362-8343-0, \$9.95) trade paperback publishes a variety of work by people you'll soon be seeing professionally. Fun, informative — and a potential collector's item.



• Comics Revue

Presents *Modesty Blaise #17: Eve and Adam* by Peter O'Donnell (story #43) is one of only two complete stories from the strip to have had more than one artist. This story ran from Aug. 13, 1979, to Jan. 4, 1980. Illustrated by John Burns and Pat Wright, the reprint magazine (1999, Comics Revue, P.O. Box 336, Mountain Home, TN 37684, \$6) takes Modesty and Willie to a remote area where an insane rich man has decided they must be fruitful and multiply following the global catastrophe he predicts. But things are seldom that simple for the pair, who star in one of the world's best adventure strips. If you've never tried the strip, this is an excellent place to start.

• *Batman: Book of the Dead* is a two-issue Elseworlds



trade paperback mini-series (June and July 1999, DC, \$4.95 each) written by Doug Moench, pencilled by Barry Kitson, and inked by Ray McCarthy. Moench begins with a huge helping of pyramid facts and theory, blends them with others' postulations on topics ranging from Atlantis to Egyptian mythology to other-worldly visitors, and tosses in an Elseworlds Batman. Then he brings them together in a structured story with beginning, middle, and end, no small trick. The story rewards rereading, which is an accomplishment by itself, and there's a bibliography for those who become intrigued.



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4123

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4130

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4130

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4131

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BATMAN: c.1966 "Joker's Happy Victims", Kellogg's poptart comics, "Joker's Practical Jokes", Prell Shampoo Giveaway, Sensation comics #89, 92. WKS, 4938 Emerson Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55430-3516.

MYSTERY IN Space #'s 8, 10, 17, 26, 40. Richard Dumont, 750 Whittemore Rd., Middlebury, CT 06762. 203-598-3529. rdumont792@aol.com

SUGAR & Spike #40. Tom Stern, 15709 Chase St., North Hills, CA 91343.

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4140

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4141

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PLAYBOY SABLE issue. Denis Schwendemann, 108 Roy St., #B-23 Seattle, WA 98109.

NATURALIST (NUDIST) material wanted. Buying non-airbrushed mags, books, etc. Send lists with issue numbers, year and conditions. S. Dowdy, 5120 North Spring, Roanoke, VA 24019.

HARSH MISTRESS Science Fiction Magazine #1, Mike Shayne Mystery Magazine, February 1968. name your price. Bill Finocchiaro, 611 Kimball Ave., Fulton, NY 13069. 315-593-3454.

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4111 Black & White, Wanted
4120 Classic, For Sale
4121 Classic, Wanted
4122 Comic Collections, For Sale
4123 Comic Collections, Wanted
4128 Dark Horse Wanted, For Sale
4130 DC, For Sale
4131 DC, Wanted
4140 Dell/Gold Key/Whitman, For Sale
4141 Dell/Gold Key/Whitman, Wanted
4150 Disney, For Sale
4151 Disney, Wanted
4160 EC, For Sale
4161 EC, Wanted
4170 Fawcett, For Sale
4171 Fawcett, Wanted
4180 Foreign, For Sale
4181 Foreign, Wanted
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4191 Harvey, Wanted
4200 Humor/Funny Animals, For Sale
4201 Humor/Funny Animals, Wanted

4204 Image, Wanted/For Sale
4207 Malibu, Wanted/For Sale
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4451 MAGAZINES, WANTED

BUYING MAGAZINES: Warren/ Sci-Fi B&W/ Horror/ Comic art. LSASE gets 6-page list with over 10,000 individual offer prices. HRB, PO Box 7086, Clearwater, FL 33758-7086.

COMICS BUYER'S Guide back issues wanted, from 1990-1996 and 1992-1994 annuals. Corey Tacker, e-mail: cwt97a@timon.acu.edu or 915-692-4926.

CREEM MAGAZINE Circa. 1982-1988, any condition. Matt Biswell, 1626 Rossi St., Boise, ID 83706-3354.

MICKEY MOUSE Magazines 1935-40 Good or Better. Dealer paying 50% Overstreet. 716-882-2875. Donald Whyte, 46 Greenwood Pl, Buffalo, NY 14213.

EERIE #61, 67, 68, 70 wanted ("Coffin" issues). Also Drawn and Quarterly vol.1 no.2, 4. Sam Roberts, 2810 E. Yesler Way, Apt. 3, Seattle, WA 98122.

GIRLY MAGS wanted from the 1950s to mid-1970s. Adam, Modern Man, Fling. Please send a pricelist. Bill Megyery, 1733A N. Larrabee, Chicago, IL 60614.

COMIC BUYER'S Guide back issues wanted, from 1990-1996 and 1992-1994 annuals. Corey Tacker e-mail: cwt97a@timon.acu.edu or 915-692-4926.

PUNK MAGAZINE issues wanted. Silver Age books available for trading. Please contact: Seth Josephson 973-744-3777, e-mail: sjosephson@aol.com.

4452 SCIENCE FICTION, FOR SALE

STAR TREK TMP Make-Your-Own Costume book, \$15; ST-TNG official magazine #1, \$10; ST-IV Movie Magazine, \$10. Steve Kolanjian, 2068 East 8th, Brooklyn, NY 11223-4124. 718-376-1245.

MOON MEN Erb Canaveral Press 1962 VF with jacket, \$135. The Land That Time Forgot Erb Canaveral 1962 VF in FN jacket, \$125. Fred 201-864-2252.

4453 SCIENCE FICTION, WANTED

PHILIP K Dick Society newsletters. If, Galaxy, Amazing, or other pulps with stories, interviews. Walsh, 323 Buchanan St., Alexandria, VA 22314-2105. 703-548-5742.

NEED THE Silent Invasion: Vol 4 from NBM. E-mail Brian at: ferpme@gtx.net

4600 REPRINTS, FOR SALE

GREATEST BATMAN 50's, Superman, and Essential Showcase softcover books \$40 postpaid for all. James Gilbert, 538 Bolan St., Marietta, GA 30008. 770-428-8288.

4605 PHONE CARDS FOR SALE

X-FILES OR Simpsons phone cards \$4 each. Walter Wyzujak, 1508 Christina St., Rockford, IL 61104-4709.

4610 PORTFOLIOS/POSTERS FOR SALE

PORTFOLIOS, PRINTS. Hundreds available. Smith, Frazetta, Wrightson, Corben, Adams, Steranko, more! SASE for free list. I also buy! Wesley, P.O. Box 366, Morrow, GA 30260.

PRINTS-POSTERS. Unusual record albums, comic art, more. Drucker, Frazetta, Jeff Jones, others. All new great lists LSASE. Biff Smith, POB 40434, Phoenix, AZ 85067-0434.

SIGNED FRAZETTA Polar Bears/ Chariot Poster. Frazetta 1978 calendar. Clyde Caldwell signed 1977 artist's proof. Any offers? Guido, #1 Screamer Dr., Clayton, GA 30525. 706-782-3318.

4611 PORTFOLIOS/POSTERS WANTED

MARVELMANIA POSTER of Captain America by Steranko wanted. Dave, 1166A West Middle Tpke, Manchester, CT 06040.

4630 TRADING CARDS FOR SALE

FRANK THOMAS rookie baseball card 1990 Fleer. Jeff Ragwell rookie 1991 Fleer update, \$3.95 each. Eagle Collectibles, 3338 Appel Rd., Bethel Park, PA 15102. 412-831-3989.

SELLINGS CCG sets, singles. Star Trek, Stng, Star Wars, Babylon 5, X-Files, Overpower, and all expansions. Low Scrye prices. David Curtis, 1806 Sycamore, Killeen, TX 76543.

50 DIFFERENT entertainment promo trading cards. WWF, Star Wars, X-Files, Xena, \$20 postpaid. (US). Steve Tafuni, POB 43, Valrico, FL 33595. e-mail: sstcmx@aol.com

500 CARDS Spawn, Spidey, Wrestling, DC, Heroes, Rock Stars, Horror, Popeye, Bugs, Sports. My choice \$3.99 postpaid. Patrick Horgan, Box 158, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569.

BUFFY VAMPIRE Slayer Season One Premium Card set; Inkworks; Factory sealed \$12, 10 for \$100, shipping \$2. Atlas, POB 25095, Overland Park, KS 66225. 913-345-1069.

SETS, SINGLES, packs, wrappers, 1940-present, Monsters, Green Hornet, Superheroes, Munsters, Elvis, 3 Stooges, War, Mars Attacks, Outer Limits, Star Wars, much more. 618-398-2673.

4630 TRADING CARDS FOR SALE

SETS, SINGLES, packs, wrappers. 1940- present. Superheroes, Elvis, Munsters, music, Outer Limits, Star Trek, Green Hornet, 3 Stooges, War, Mars Attacks, much more. 618-398-2673.

DICK TRACEY Caramel cards (Walter/ Johnson Candy Co., Chicago) #6, 7, 54, 66, 80, 92, 93, 95; VG+/- better, \$7 @ ppd. Paperman, 94 Berkeley Pl., Bridgeport, CT 06610.

HOTSHOTS 1, 3, 666, 2, 3, DaVine, Galaxy of Sex Superstars, Hustlers 2, 3, Signature Edition. SASE. Louis Bosse, 1120 Aurora, Muskegon, MI 49442-5932.

CARD SETS \$5 and up, also display boxes, wax wrappers, promos, etc. SASE for list. Lanny Burton, 439 Bedford Ave., Xenia, OH 45385.

STAR WARS Galaxy Millennium Falcon set, still in shrink wrapped box. Make an offer, make it yours! Guido, #1 Screamer Dr., Clayton, GA 30525. 706-782-3318.

STAR WARS Topps 1-330, Empire 1-352, Jedi 1-220 plus stickers, only \$150 ppd. Robert Loeffler, 385 Crosby Ave., Kenmore, NY 14217. 716-875-5986.

MARVEL MASTERPIECE 1992 5 card Spectra Foil set, NM/ MT only \$10 for the set. Mitch 281-444-6293.

4631 TRADING CARDS WANTED

WACKY PACKAGES wanted. Will buy all original art work and uncut sheets, will also pay a finders fee for any information that results in a sale. Eric Roberts, 260 Atherton Ave., Atherton, CA 94027. 650-327-6570 or 650-326-8708.

OVERPOWER WANTED! Any character, any mission, any homebase, promos, Batman hologram overpower inserts. Contact Rich, 2335 S. California, Chicago, IL 60608. 773-254-6805.

GROO SKETCH Card. Gary, 8916 Blomberg St. SW, Olympia, WA 98512. e-mail: grossfam@olywa.net 360-352-0432.

BUYING ALL nine card Ashcan sets by Majestic and Subsets, D1 to D9, promo P1 to P9. 727-937-5667 e-mail: fantonal@aol.com

HOW ABOUT trading 10 of your promo cards for 10 of mine. Need Spider-Girl #0. Thanks! Tom Vanko, 1527 Somerset, Munster, IN 46321-4387.

ANYONE STILL want to trade 10 of your promo cards for 10 of mine? Need Spider-Girl #0. Tom Vanko, 1527 Somerset Dr., Munster, IN 46321-4387.

SET: HOT Air balloons (Airventure) 1992, Biosphere, Little Caesars Pizza, Robot Wars, Beetleborgs, Show & Go Cars, Edward Moriarty, PO Box 4595, Oakbrook, IL 60522-4595.

4660 MISCELLANEOUS, FOR SALE

SPORTS CARDS & memorabilia collectors: Buy and sell with the biggest and best collectors in the world. Place your classified ad in Sports Collectors Digest. 40,000 weekly readers. The hobby's oldest, most respected magazine. We are the "bible" of the industry. Bonus: Your classified ad also goes up on the Internet at no additional charge! Call today: 800-942-0673.

FREE BOOKLET with book order! Robots, aliens and Cybor65. Oh my! Dragons and castles as well! SASE- Damon, PO 261921, Encino, CA 91426 or http://www.galaxymail.com/art/alienart

DAVE STEVENS fan has Rocketeer list for sale or trade. Other Stevens posters, comics, rarities. 303-424-8762 or seagame@mstg.net Cliff Gemmell, POB 740982, Arvada, CO 80006.

ATTAKUS/ MARVEL limited edition statues, busts and more! Spiderman, Wolverine, and others. Rare in USA domestic shipping. 615-867-3700.

12 PAGES of EC Comics, Zines, memorabilia, and one 7 page Kurtzman story. 66¢ postage to Ed Spiegel, 335 Farrington Blvd., North Brunswick, NJ 08902.

SMITHSONIAN BOOK of comic book comics for sale, \$20. Contact bradwinter@hotmail.com for details.

MICHAEL SPINKS photo, taken approx 1982, Binion's Horseshoe Million Dollar Display Las Vegas, autographed on back \$200 OBO. Jamie 702-641-1919. datastar@webtv.net

METEORITES, OWN a piece of another world. Authenticity guaranteed. See photos at: http://meteoriteweb.com

RARE 1966 Marvel LP Record, "Captain America Joins the Avengers," no comic but very good condition record, \$10 plus postage. 651-698-8981.

FOR SALE trade comics, toys, trading cards, promos and more. Get my list or send yours. CM Taylor, 6708 Parsons Blvd. 6B, Flushing, NY 11365.

YOUR NAME on published comic strip, 10,000 copies. Be "Subsidy Producer". \$150 gets you title original page. Foss, HCR 3, Box 40, Birchtree, MO 65438.

STAR TREK & Star Wars sets, singles and inserts. Send SASE with wants. Brevard, PO Box 2492, Oshkosh, WI 54903. collectch@northnet.net

1ST WOLVERINE action figure: Mint on card! Nearly 10 years old. Hard to find! @ \$12. K.M., 30 Young Ave., Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

"SUPERMAN MILK" bottle: Got one! Great Graphics and direct from "Kent Dairies" \$18 ppd. Hurry! K.M., 30 Young Ave., Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

4660 MISCELLANEOUS, FOR SALE

AUTOGRAPHED, SPECIAL Edition Comics: Batman, 492 NM+, \$10. Boba Fett, 1/2 NM+, \$16. Cyberforce Ashcan (Silvestri) NM, \$6. Lady Death 1/2 NM, \$10. Oz 1 NM+, autographed. David 501-521-0526.

CHARLTON HESTON 5x7 color autographed photo, \$12 postpaid. Approx. 100 celebrities available, low as \$6 each postpaid. John Travalini, 217 New Road, Wilmington, DE 19805.

COMICS REVUE 1-50, \$100 postpaid. Nice condition Overstreet #3, NM, \$150. Korak 1-59, \$100. G-F, postpaid. Bob Ranken, 25012 Wiley Cyn. Rd., Newhall, CA 91321.

QUIT FOOLING around! Send me a SASE for list of cool art, prints, portfolios, art books, and more! Dave LeClair, 3 Arlington, Holyoke, MA 01040.

VARI-VUE 1966 Green Hornet Flasher uncut sheet 12, 7 inch buttons \$350. 1967 Flasher Picture ruler MIP \$125. Butler, 3791 Wildcat Run, Laneland, FL 33810.

ATARI 2600 System for sale. Unsure of value, so please make offer. Write: Bryan, 4257 Lester NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525, or e-mail: dilbort@aol.com

4661 MISCELLANEOUS, WANTED

WANTED! NEMO 3, 4, 6, any after #30. Also want true comics 1, 3-10. Heroic 6. Pres, 24714 Eilat, Woodland Hills, CA 91367-1033.

LASER DISCS- especially Song of the South, other Disney and sealed titles. No gore, buy/ trade. 303-424-8762. seagame@mstg.net Cliff Gemmell, POB 740982, Arvada, CO 80006.

WANTED! FIGHTCOMICS 2-7, 11, 12. Joe Palooka 48, 52, 54, 57, 61, 62, 66, 67. Pres, 24714 Eilat, Woodland Hills, CA 91367-1033.

CRAFTINT ART boards with developers (duo-tone), also Hot Wheels comics with Alex Toth artwork. Write: Bill, POB 27471, Seattle, WA 98125 or e-mail: WSchelly@aol.com

"LONG LIVE the New Flesh" CD by "Flesh For LuLu". Must have "I Go Crazy" included. Robert Cook, 2503-10 St. Christopher Cir., Wilson, NC 27893.

MILLIONAIRE LOOKING for covers- Well, big fan with some money for FF Spider Surfer covers. Ron, PO Box 491670, LA, CA 90049-1670.

NEED BTVS series II complete set. Also episodes of Millennium seasons 2 and 3. S. Burnett, 210 Wayne St, Monticello, KY 42633. Buying video games.

(ST. JOHN'S) Casper #1, 3. Little Eva #19, 26. (McKay-standard) Katzenjammer Kids #8, 11, 12, 13, 21. \$\$\$ WKS, 4938 Emerson Ave. N., Minneapolis, MN 55430-3516.

MARVEL BULLPEN autographs wanted! 1960's autograph letters, fan club kits, buttons, T-shirts, anything. Also buying Romita Spider-Man original art. Contact Aaron 919-954-7111.

FULL MOON Entertainment VHS titles. Send lists to: David Hissong, 17931 New Gambier Rd., Mt. Vernon, OH 43050.

GAME GENIE wanted for Sega Genesis. Jason 515-753-6481 evenings.

GREEN LANTERN rings: Buying all GL rings. Any style, any size. Tell me what you have! B.K.M., 30 Young Ave., Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520.

"MEMPHIS JUG Band" double LP, Yazoo 1067, with Robert Crumb cover art. Sell me your spare. Eric Morey, PO Box 322, Woodacre, CA 94973-0322. 415-488-0649.

4700 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES FOR SALE

MODEL KITS: Plastic, resin and vinyl. From and of comics, Sci-Fi, TV, movies, space, figures, etc. Old and new, hundreds available. Free sales catalog, we also buy and trade. JF Green Models, Dept. CBG, PO Box 55787, Riverside, CA 92517. 909-684-5300, 800-807-4759, Fax 909-684-8819, e-mail: cbg@greenmodels.com website: http://www.greenmodels.com

STARMAN INSIGNIA (silver) button/ Green Lantern insignia pin/ Dark Horse Frankenstein's Monster model kit. Complete, intact, new. Steve, evenings 613-231-5342.

"SUPERMAN" MONOGRAM Model, MIB, \$50. Superman Statue about 15", Boxed, \$70. Rootie Kazootie 1950s, about 20", (doll only), Rare, \$250. Goldfinger plate, \$100. Jim 562-949-1422.

MARVEL GOLD Vision & Moon Knight figures \$12.96 each plus \$3.50 shipping. Art Gamboa, 815 S Maywood, Anaheim, CA 92805. Money orders only artgam@aol.com

MARVEL PEWTER, Series #2: Sub-Mariner, Thor, and Wolverine, \$20 plus \$5 postage. Dave at dndcomic@aol.com or PO Box 414, South Cairo, NY 12482.

FEUDAL: AVALON Hill's exciting mint Medieval War game of military siege and conquest. \$30. \$5 P/H. Gernert, SHV, 2110 Payne St #011, Louisville, KY 40206.

GREEN LANTERN! Watch \$50, Super Powers Toy Biz 1st series large card \$25, Total Justice \$10. All MIP. 10144 Wheatland, Sunland, CA 91040. 818-352-4096. smallstep@juno.com

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4701 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES WANTED

SUPERMAN WANTED! Yup, I still buy old Superman stuff! Wanna buy great collectibles? Check my Ebay auctions: superdf62@aol.com Danny Fuchs, 209-80 18th Ave., Bayside, NY 11360.

HERMAN MUNSTER (Mattel 1964) doll or handpuppet wanted by comic artist. Will trade original artwork (&more) or buy if reasonably priced. Doug Hazlewood 361-572-8658 daze54@hotmail.com

GAMES WANTED by comic artist: Silly Safari, Haunted House (Ideal '62), Weird-Ohs Game (Ideal '64), Monster Lab (Ideal '63/'64). Buy trade. Doug Hazlewood 361-572-8658. daze54@hotmail.com

4800 FANZINES, FOR SALE

MONSTER SOCIETY of Evil, HC mint #36, slipcase, signed by CC Beck, \$200. Sam A/C 440-243-6875.

4801 FANZINES, WANTED

CBM TRADE? Want 3-4, 12, 16, 67. Have to trade 2, 9-11, 13, 15, 17-18, 22-53, 55-58, 60. Jim 408-867-9485 7-10pm EST.

COMIC- FANTASY art, APA mailings wanted. Need most, #30- present. Prefer originals but will buy/ swap for photocopies. Nick Certo, 914-566-4188. ncerto@frontiernet.net

PRE-80'S COMIC Fanzines and apas wanted. Gerry, PO Box 895, Farmington, MI 48332-0895.

4900 NEWSPAPER STRIPS, FOR SALE

PICK OUT dates. Daily and Sunday. Great Selection. 1895 to 1998. Send your wantlist and SASE to: Gordon Campbell, 1124 Brookmeade Drive, Nashville, TN 37204

STAR WARS! Goodwin/ Manning! 602-704-0848. 4-17-79 to 8-6-79. Postal money order! NM/Mint! Dailies \$15 each, Sundays \$25, plus shipping! R. Jaxon, 3425 E Chandler, Blvd, #224, Phoenix, AZ 85044.

JOHNNY HAZARD 46 1970-1/3, \$20; Tailspin Tommy 11 1933-35 Tabs, \$16.50; Phantom 33 1948-1/3, \$30. Donald Puff, 500 Walton Dr., Cheektowaga, NY 14225. 716-834-0996.

STAR WARS! Goodwin/ Manning! 602-704-0848. 4-17-79 to 8-6-79. Postal money order! NM/Mint! Dailies \$15 each, Sundays \$25, plus shipping! R. Jaxon, 3425 E Chandler, Blvd, #224, Phoenix, AZ 85044.

JOHNNY HAZARD 46 1970-1/3, \$20; Tailspin Tommy 11 1933-35 Tabs, \$16.50; Phantom 33 1948-1/3, \$30. Donald Puff, 500 Walton Dr., Cheektowaga, NY 14225. 716-834-0996.

4901 NEWSPAPER STRIPS, WANTED

BUYING COLLECTIONS, Puck sections, Spirit tabs. Phone/ Fax 510-666-0732. Starland Strips, 1563 Solano #155, Berkeley, CA 94707.

SUNDAY COMICS wanted. Large collections 1896-1960 immediate cash. Trades available. Peter Maresca, 450 Monroe Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94306, pete@zenda.com Phone/FAX: 650-941-7988.

CHRISTIAN-BASED strips, early ones preferred (Not "... Great Book"); also comics, reprints; Treasure Chest Vol. 1 #5. Harry Miller, 190 Peach Blossom, Bowling Green, KY 42103. 270-843-2300.

TARZAN AND Phantom Sunday pages wanted. SASE for additional comics sales/ want lists. Todd Goldberg, 215 Holmcrest Rd, Jenkintown, PA 19046.

4902 VIDEOS FOR SALE

CADILLACS DINOSAURS- two videos, 4 stories from the Animated Series. \$11 ppd. Gerald Tilley, 2416 Delaware, Springfield, IL 62702.

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Advertising
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AD DEADLINE	NO.	ISSUE	AD DEADLINE	NO.	ISSUE
Mon. June 28, 1999	1340	July 23, 1999	Tues. July 20, 1999	1343	Aug. 13, 1999
Tues. July 6, 1999	1341	July 30, 1999	Tues. July 27, 1999	1344	Aug. 20, 1999
Tues. July 13, 1999	1342	Aug. 6, 1999	Tues. Aug. 3, 1999	1345	Aug. 27, 1999

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

(Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts.)

AD SIZE	ISSUE	ISSUES	ISSUES	ISSUES	ISSUES
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B. Quarter Page Vertical (4-1/8" x 5-3/4")	\$195	\$192	\$188	\$180	\$164
Quarter Page Horizontal (10" x 2-3/4")	\$195	\$192	\$188	\$180	\$164
C. Half Page Vertical (4-1/8" x 11") or Half Page Horizontal (10" x 5-3/4")	\$303	\$297	\$291	\$279	\$255
D. Full Page (10" x 11")	\$546	\$536	\$525	\$503	\$459

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(Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts.)

AD SIZE	ISSUE	ISSUES	ISSUES	ISSUES	ISSUES
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2. Two Inches (2-1/4" x 2")	\$31.00	\$30.00	\$29.00	\$28.00	\$26.00
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"No-frills" advertising with a price to match. Design your own ad - just type your ad clearly on an 8-1/2" w x 8-1/2" h sheet of paper. We will reduce your Trader ad to fit a 1/9 page space (3-1/4" w x 3-1/4" h). Super Traders should be typed on an 8-1/2" w x 8-1/2" h sheet of paper which will be reduced to fit a 5" x 5" space.

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(Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts. Limit 6 Trader spaces per page per advertiser.)

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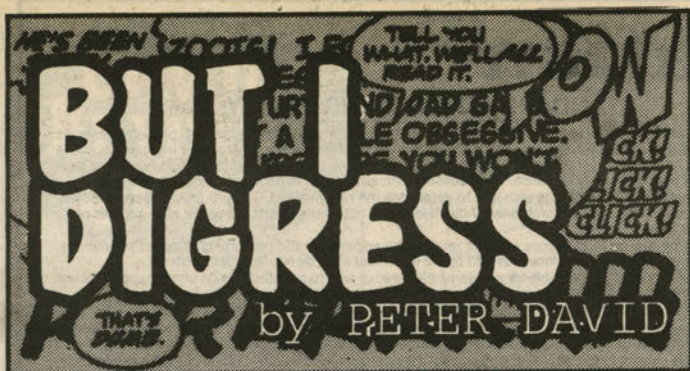
Super Trader

(Cost per ad per issue: ads must run consecutively to earn contract discounts. Limit 2 Super Trader spaces per advertiser per page.)

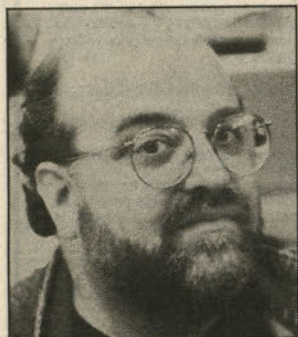
1 Issue	6 Issues	13 Issues	26 Issues	52 Issues
\$114.00	\$112.00	\$110.00	\$105.00	\$96.00

C. RETAILER DIRECTORY \$3.50 per issue

Leads fans to your cash register! List your store name, address, phone number and 15 words of description. Sold in 26 and 52 week increments. It's targeted more to the comics buff than the yellow pages - and it's more cost effective. If you sell COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE in your store, we will publish your listing in bold face type at no extra charge.



It's depressing not being a target audience. It's disconcerting feeling one's age. And it's particularly uncomfortable when one feels that way when lots of other people are around, as was the case when I saw *Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me*.



"Comics that come out now are judged using adult standards or criteria formed by exposure to increasingly sophisticated entertainment."



I went with Gwen, my 14-year-old — except I didn't, really. She actually went with several friends, and I was obliged to sit on the opposite side of the theater so that no one could remotely, possibly, think that, by some incredible happenstance, she was with me. (This is as opposed to the times that she is at a convention with me, where she's all too happy to bop around dealer's rooms, bat her eyes at exhibitors, and say, "Hi, I'm Peter David's daughter. Can I get a discount?" Oh, yeah, *then* she wants to associate me. Ah, well ...)

With a film such as *Shagged*, it is imperative that one turn off one's mind. Unfortunately, as eager as the assorted teen-agers around me were to do so, I found I could not. Nor, as it turned out, could Gwen, nor could my eldest, Shana — at least, not completely. I suppose I should be proud. Instead, I feel a bit sorry for them. Some of the things they (and I) tripped over throughout the film were ...

[**Spoiler Warning for some aspects of *Shagged*:** Right. As if a film that fans will see a hundred times is going to be harmed by discussion of story elements. But there are a couple of references to James Bond movies, too. Oh, and *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*. And — Oh, just be warned.]

1) How could Vanessa (Elizabeth Hurley) possibly have been a Fembot, when she was clearly shown as having a mother in the previous film? Was her mom a Fembot, too?

2) The first film clearly established that Austin Powers (Mike Myers) was put into suspended animation until the year 1997. The sequel began with a copyline that informed us we were "later that night," in following up on Austin and Vanessa's honeymoon. But *Shagged* was clearly established as being set in 1999. What happened to the intervening two years? That was one incredibly long honeymoon. "Oh, behave!" in-

deed.

3) Mini-Me is ostensibly $\frac{1}{2}$ the size of Doctor Evil (also Myers). Mini-Me can be considered to be 32" (the height of the actor who plays him). Based on that, we have to conclude that Doctor Evil is around 16' tall. Either that or, if we guess that Dr. Evil is no taller than 6', that would mean that Mini-Me has to be about 9" high, which he obviously is not.

4) If Austin, in best Dorothy of Oz style, didn't really need his mojo to function, as was claimed in the denouement — if, in short, it was all in his mind — then how could its theft 30 years previously have possibly affected him some 30 years later, when he was in bed with Ivana Humpalot (3rd Rock's Kristen Johnston, gone entirely too soon from the film).

After all, if the need was purely psychological, he couldn't have known that it was gone in the first place. For that matter, if it had, indeed, been stolen in the late '60s, then it was gone by the time Austin thawed in the late '90s. Anything done to the Austin in the past must have an impact on the Austin of present day. That is to say, he should never have had his mojo at any point in the second film — or the first, for that matter.

And the most important question of all: Why would anyone in his right mind be concerned about such things, when the film obviously isn't?

I suppose the problem is that I felt as completely out of his proper time as Austin was. The things that I got the biggest kick out of went right past the kids seated near me. In fact, when I laughed out loud at them, they stared at me, since they couldn't quite grasp just what it was I found so amusing.

In a way, I guess I should be upset. *Austin Powers* has made it impossible for any new viewers to take any of the early Bond films seriously. How could any kid just being introduced to Blofeld, for instance, possibly refrain from saying "Throw me a frickin' bone here," when they see him stroking his cat.

Then, again, how many kids are ever going to bother to seek the films out? Which is a shame, since it would make them better able to appreciate some of the absurdist angles that the film takes. It was depressing to be the only one laughing, when Felicity emerged from the surf clad in a bathing suit identical to that worn by Ursula Andress in *Doctor No*.

Likewise, when Austin caught a reflection of an assassin in the eye

of a dance partner, he used her as a human shield, just as Bond did in *Goldfinger* — although in Bond's case, she collapsed after a single bullet. For Austin, his makeshift buffer not only survived the first bullet, but withstood a full clip from a machine gun, a bazooka, and a fall of approximately 20 stories. Me, I thought that was funny as hell, because I had the original point of reference in my head.

What worked for the rest of the audience, on the other hand, didn't remotely work for me. When Austin inadvertently drank a stool sample (ruining forever the image of the "Got Milk?" ads, which might not be such a bad thing), it took the audience about five minutes to compose itself. I haven't heard that much sustained laughter since Indiana Jones' dad informed him that he knew Elsa was a Nazi because "she talks in her sleep." I just kind of sat there. I wasn't grossed out by it, any more than I was bothered by other gross-out points (such as the incredibly obese Scotsman), because I just felt kind of removed from it.

Oh, my God, he's drinking liquid dung! Well, no, it's just some colored water or something.

Oh, my God, the fat guy is so gross! Well, no, it's a massive rubber suit with crumbs.

It didn't prompt any reaction from me, other than rolling my eyes. Although I do freely admit that I find Doctor Evil much more entertaining than Austin himself. It's probably because Austin is a send-up of a very specific type of particular Brit spy (which was self-parody even in its heyday), whereas Doctor Evil (Blofeld origins aside) is iconic, a take-off on virtually every mastermind-evil scientist-super-villain whose plans would succeed, if he would just put a gun to the hero's head and pull the trigger (as the increasingly contemptuous Scott Evil is quick to point out; if there's a third film, Scott has got to get more screen time).

The thing is, there's all this talk now about how gross comedies are becoming these days. I found myself wishing I could de-age myself somehow and figure out whether my inability to "appreciate" them came from my being the wrong age — or whether the films just weren't funny. Then I realized that, in a way, I could. So I tossed on my laserdisc of *Animal House*, which I saw when I was — if not just the right age — a lot closer to it than I am now.

Geez, what a gross film. What

an utter celebration of mindlessness and juvenile attitudes. What a debauched and tasteless waste of celluloid. What a great movie.

I mean, really — is there any more glorious moment in film history than when John Belushi's Bluto, confronted by the snobbi-ness of the rival fraternity members declaring him to be a pig, says, "See if you can guess what I am now." Whereupon he shovels mashed potatoes into his mouth, engorging his cheeks, then slams his fists into the sides of his face, discharging the milky white contents over the snobby onlookers. "I'm a zit? Get it?" he announces, whereupon the all-too-short food fight breaks out.

I came to the horrific and depressing realization that, if *Animal House* was first released today, I would very probably not enjoy it at all. For that matter, if the film were remade, they'd probably have to jack the grossness level way up in order to pull in the desired audience.

Perhaps that's part of what's so frustrating for many older comic fans. Comics that come out now are judged using adult standards or criteria formed by exposure to increasingly sophisticated entertainment. Meantime, we can re-read comics that we enjoyed in our youth — stories about which, if they were first published now, we know in our heart of hearts that we would say, "How stupid. How juvenile. How tortured is the logic, how crude is the art, how absurd are the plot twists that come out of left field."

Comics such as *Tom Strong* endeavor to recapture the charm of such bygone days, and many fans don't know how to react to such a series, viewing it as sinful or wrongheaded or just plain stupid to try to "roll the clock back," as it were. It's as if any effort to produce a "retro" comic book is suspect or insincere or viewed as a cold-hearted, calculated ploy to play on the youthful recollections of fans.

It's almost as if there's a self-loathing involved for many fans, wanting to experience the same reactions that comics gave us in our youth, but resenting any attempts to produce comics that do so, and knowing in our hearts that even the comics we really *did* like as kids wouldn't pass muster any more.

What is the answer, I wonder? Only one really comes to mind:

"Oh, behave!"

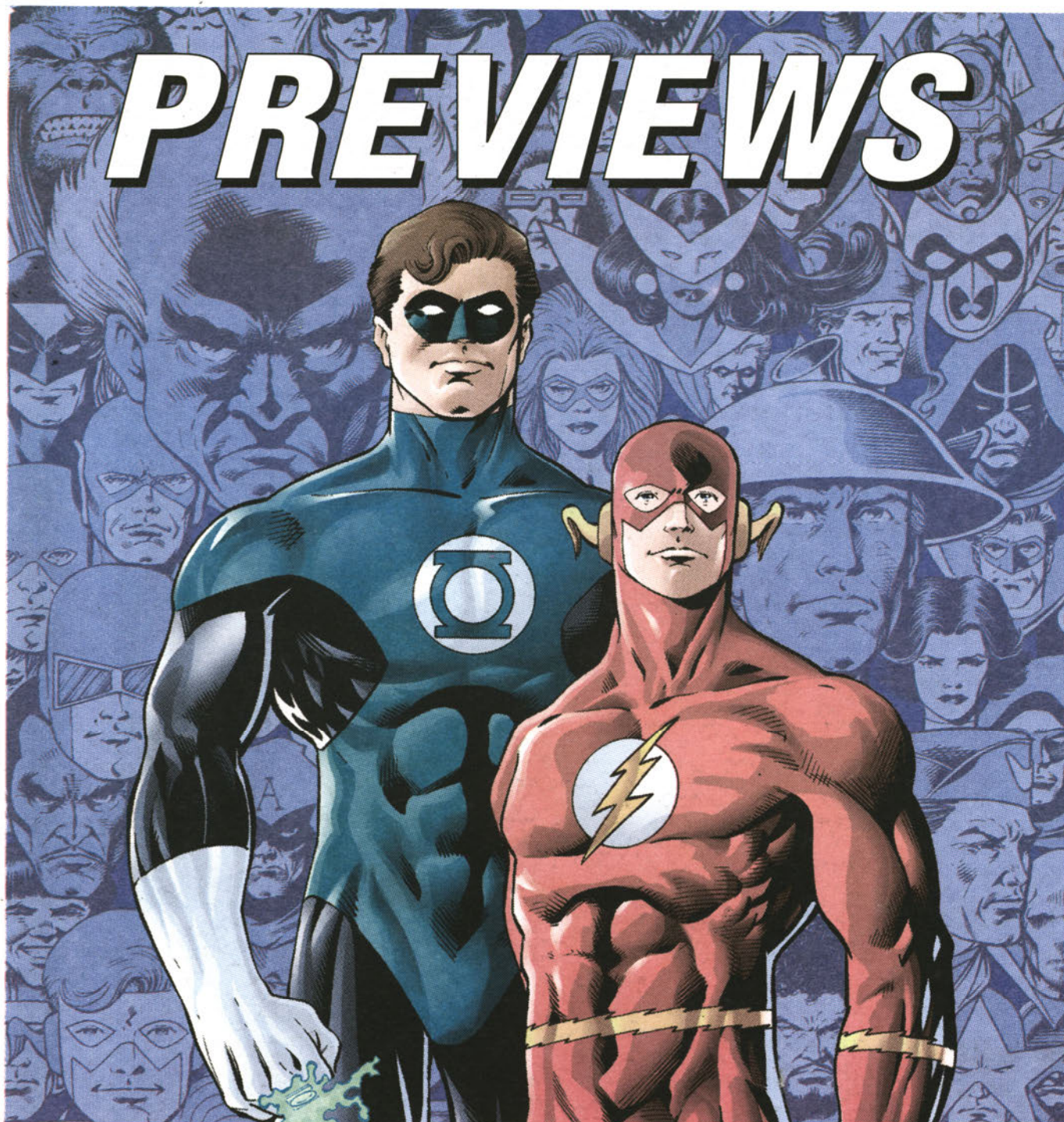
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